



The Rescue of the Peso: A Humbling Experience For Its Loans, Mexico Will Pay A Weighty Price in Sovereignty

By Alan Friedman

International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Mexico will pay a heavy price, ceding a significant chunk of its national sovereignty, in order to tap into nearly \$50 billion of emergency U.S. and international loans that are designed to stanch its financial crisis.

While President Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León has been quick to tell domestic audiences that the new loan package will not threaten "the sovereignty of the na-

NEWS ANALYSIS

tion," the reality is that the economic conditions expected to be imposed by the International Monetary Fund mean that his government will effectively share control of its destiny for many months to come.

The IMF guidelines, while in theory only tied to \$17.5 billion of the rescue money, will almost certainly set the standard for the other major components of the package, including \$10 billion of loans from the world's leading central banks and \$20 billion from the U.S. Treasury.

The details of the global rescue for Mexico are going to top the agenda when finance ministers from the Group of Seven nations meet in Toronto on Friday and Saturday. But it is already clear that at the heart of any program of economic measures will be the need to burst the inflationary bubble that is resulting from Mexico's bungled devaluation of the peso. Among the conditions most likely to be set are:

- That Mexico offer future oil revenue as collateral against the \$20 billion of U.S. Treasury credits and the \$10 billion of non-U.S. central bank loans that are to be coordinated by the Basle-based Bank for International Settlements, the central bankers' clearinghouse.

- That Mexico carry out a much more rigorous management of its money supply, meaning higher interest rates that will slow down economic growth and could even plunge Mexico into a recession.

- That Mexico tighten its fiscal policy, meaning a range of public spending cuts.

- That Mexico impose stronger controls on credits for the development of Mexican industry that have been handed out to companies by the government much too freely.

Some Mexico-watchers may argue that

this is what Mexican policymakers would have had to do under any circumstances. But there is no doubt that the conditions attached to the international rescue package will act as a powerful discipline, just as was the case in 1982, when the IMF forced Mexico into a severe austerity program following its debt crisis.

The conditions will force President Zedillo to take steps that might have been otherwise hard to push through. Yet, they will also give him an argument to use against critics, namely that without such measures the country would not have gained access to desperately needed funds and would have faced financial chaos.

Ronald D. Hormann, a former senior U.S. financial official and the vice-chairman of Goldman Sachs (International) Inc., noted in an interview Wednesday that "any country that has an IMF agreement has to meet certain conditions and loses a certain amount of its own sovereignty by virtue of the fact that it has to adhere to those conditions." He added, however, that the likely conditions did not appear to be unreasonable given the situation.

Meanwhile, in domestic Mexican political terms, what almost every foreign financial official involved in the rescue agrees upon is that tough as the economic measures may be, the new loan package will hurt national pride far less than would have been the case if Mexico had been on the receiving end of congressional conditions attached to the Clinton administration's aborted \$40 billion package of loan guarantees.

Among the conditions being proposed in Congress were drastic limits on Mexico's political and economic relations with Cuba, steps to clamp down on illegal emigrants headed for the United States, an increase in Mexico's minimum wage and the setting up of a currency board to keep the peso pegged to the U.S. dollar.

Most of these conditions — and especially the restrictions on ties to Cuba or the boosting of a minimum wage — were either impractical or just purely political, and they bore little relation to the curing of Mexico's liquidity crisis. Some were simply leftover ideas that congressional critics of the North American Free Trade Agreement failed to attach to that trade deal before it was approved in late 1993.

Among the sharpest consequences of the conditions that will soon be imposed on Mexico in exchange for its rescue package is the danger of recession.

Irish-British Plan for Talks Provokes a Unionist Storm

By John Darnton

New York Times Service

LONDON — Prospects for peace negotiations in Northern Ireland hit a snag Wednesday when details of a British-Irish plan to guide the talks were disclosed to the press, provoking a storm of protest from Northern Ireland's unionist politicians.

The Protestant unionists, who want Ulster to remain part of Britain, charged that the plan gave the Irish Republic a role in running affairs north of the border.

In particular, they objected to a proposal for a joint north-south Irish authority that would have strong executive powers in certain areas and would deal directly with the 15-nation European Union.

To the unionists, this conjured up their ultimate nightmare — Ireland's reunification.

"If this document were agreed to by the British government, it will be regarded as a sellout," said David Trimble, a member of Parliament from the dominant and moderate Ulster Unionist Party. "It is completely unacceptable to unionists."

He said the unionists might now only refuse to join in any negotiations, but also withdraw their support from the Conservative government in London, which would transform Prime Minister John Major's working majority in Parliament into a minority.

So the publication of key sections of the draft document in The Times of London turned into a crisis for the government and threatened to overwhelm the delicate, 13-

month search for a way out of 25 years of sectarian conflict in Northern Ireland.

The gravity was signaled by a special debate in the House of Commons, called in response to the disclosure, and by a televised address to the nation by the prime minister Wednesday evening.

"Judge our proposals as a whole. There is nothing for you to fear," Mr. Major said in the address, adding: "My aim is lasting peace. For the first time in 25 years, we have a real chance of achieving this. It should not be thrown away by fears that are unreal and accusations that are untrue."

But throughout the day, the government was trying to put out the fires ignited by the fears of unionists, who represent the province's 950,000 Protestant majority. Government officials pointed out that the leaked document was only a draft and that even if the agreement had been struck the unionists could turn it down at the negotiating table or kill it in a public referendum.

"This is not some blueprint to be imposed on the people of Northern Ireland," the secretary for Northern Ireland, Sir Patrick Mayhew, emphasized during the Commons debate. He reiterated the government's insistence that the document in no way envisioned joint authority over the north between Dublin and London.

This was not enough to assuage the unionists. The Reverend Ian Paisley, whose Democratic Unionist Party is more extreme than the Ulster Unionist Party, thundered that it was a sellout. "The secret-

See ULSTER, Page 4

By Barry James

International Herald Tribune

Dikes in the Netherlands, although strained and weakened, held back rivers swollen to some of the highest levels this century on Wednesday, but the authorities said the risk of huge inundations was far from over.

Thousands more people were ordered to leave their homes as sandbagged defenses reached the breaking point. Because of flooding or the threat of flooding, nearly a quarter of a million people in the Netherlands have fled or been ordered to leave by Thursday morning.

In Germany, France and Belgium, floodwaters slowly ebbed, leaving behind damage estimated at hundreds of millions of dollars. At least 27 people have been killed by the flooding in northern Europe.

Engineers said the biggest danger was not rivers flowing over the dikes, but erosion that would cause a collapse. They

were looking for signs that the water seeping from the dikes had turned muddy or sandy, indicating that the defenses were collapsing from within.

"The dikes are soaked and weak," said Wim van Buuren, a spokesman for the crisis center at Tiel, close to a point where the Waal and Meuse rivers converge in within a few hundred meters. But so far, he said, water seeping out of the dikes was clear. "That's a good sign," he added.

The Meuse earlier caused extensive flooding in France and Belgium.

Signs that the dikes were giving way at Ochten prompted the authorities to order the evacuation of the town and surrounding areas.

Police also evacuated about 10,000 people from the communities of East Gorin.

See FLOODS, Page 4

Colin Powell for President? 'The Weather Is Beautiful'

By Sam Howe Verhovek

New York Times Service

SAN ANTONIO, Texas — In 1951, *Time* magazine offered General Dwight D. Eisenhower \$40,000 to answer the question: "Are you a Republican or a

Democrat?" General Colin L. Powell could probably command a lot more than that, but he answers for free.

"I will not dodge this question, I will answer it right back, straightforwardly: I am neither," General Powell told a woman who asked the question before a crowd of 4,000 people at Trinity University here.

That answer will not satisfy strategists of either party, who see in the 57-year-old retired chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff a dream presidential candidate.

Nor will it fully please people who have talked about setting General Powell on an independent course for the White House. He pointedly notes that his "evolving political philosophy" might someday be at home in either the Democratic or Republican Party.

"Interesting," General Powell contin-

ued. "Interesting! Yeah!" The audience roared.

Even the general may not know if he will ever run for president, though polls suggest that he would be a formidable candidate and that many people regard him as "one of America's genuine heroes," as the Trinity University president, Ronald Calgaard, said in his introduction.

The chief effect of the presidential speculation may be to drive up General Powell's value on the lecture circuit — he speaks about twice a month, reportedly with fees as high as \$60,000 — and raise interest in his forthcoming memoirs.

General Powell, who held top posts in the last three administrations, has mas-

See POWELL, Page 4

Kiosk

U.K. Animal Rights Protester Killed

COVENTRY, England (AP) — A woman protesting the export of live animals from Coventry Airport was hit and killed by a truck carrying calves Wednesday night, police said.

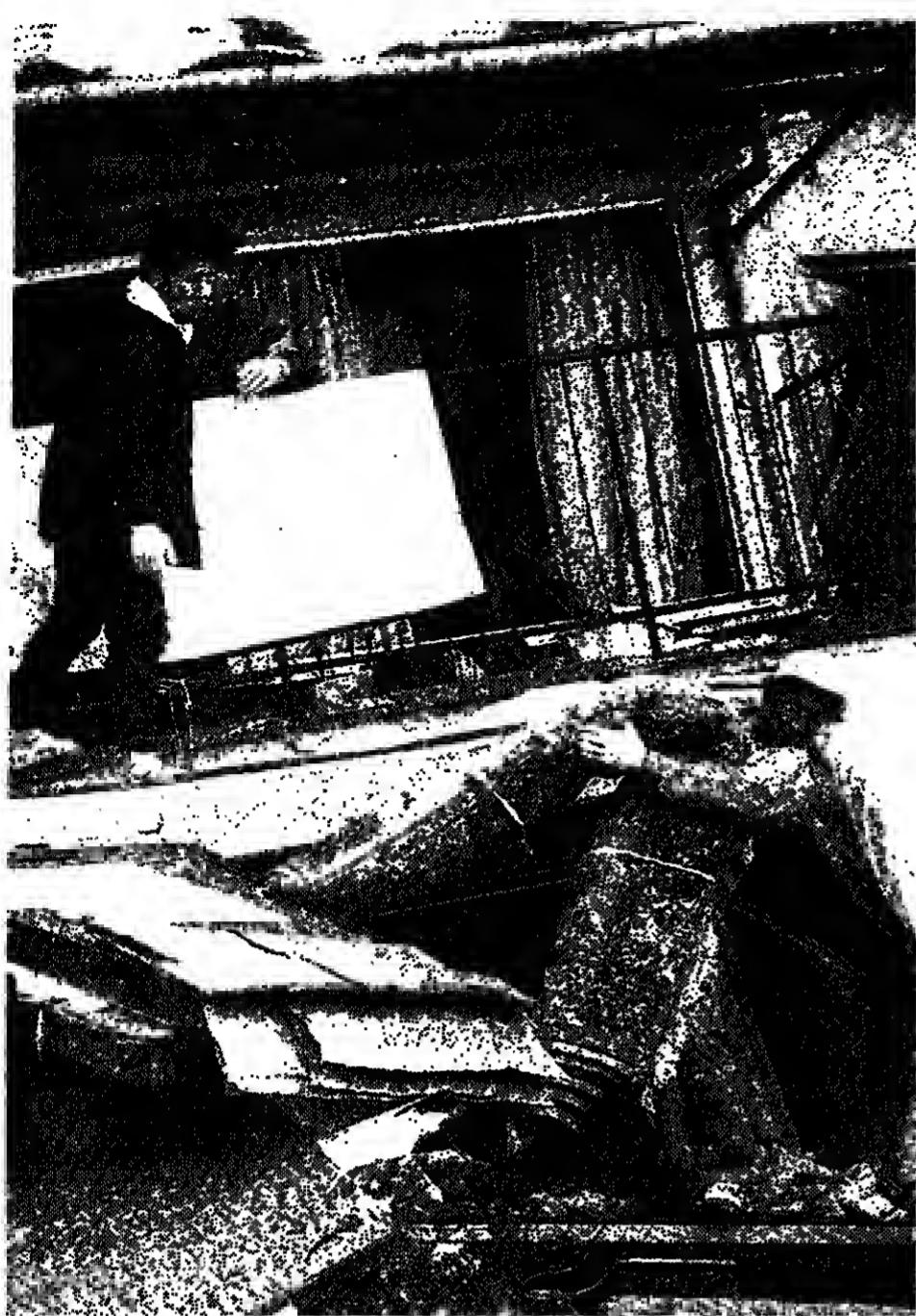
The incident occurred as a group of 34 people tried to block the truck from passing on the road to the airport, police said.

For four weeks, animal rights protesters have been demonstrating almost daily and sometimes violently against Britain's export of live animals.

They also protest the shipment of calves to countries like France, where the animals are raised in conditions that are outlawed in Britain as cruel.

Dow Jones	Up	Up	Trib Index
3.70	0.48%	110.54	
8847.56			
The Dollar	Up	Up	
New York	1.5163	1.5243	
DM			
Pound	1.5828	1.58	
Yen	99.20	99.625	
FF	5.285	5.283	
Book Review			
Bridge		Page 8	
Crossword		Page 17	
International Classified		Page 7	

In a Quake, What You See Depends on Who You Are



Kobe residents carrying belongings from a collapsed house Wednesday.

By T.R. Reid
Washington Post Service

KOBE, Japan — Is there a right way for a reporter to cover an earthquake? The answer seems to depend on what country the reporter comes from.

On the evidence of various oaths' coverage of the Jan. 17 earthquake that killed more than 5,000 people here, it is clear that Japanese reporters and Western reporters had different ideas about the kind of news they were supposed to find. To a large extent, the dispatches each group filed conformed to its home country's cultural expectations.

Western reporters tended to accentuate the negative, focusing on the worst scenes of destruction and the most crushing moments of personal loss. American journalists in particular seemed to be on the prowl for confrontation, probing cold, hungry victims with questions like "Do you think the government has done enough to help?"

The Japanese news media seemed more inclined to keep a distance, to view the disaster through a broad lens that included buildings still standing as well as those smashed to the ground. And Japanese reports focused far more on harmony than discord among the hundreds of homeless victims — that being, after all, what the Japanese viewer would expect to see.

Even the most basic question in the TV reporter's repertoire — "How do you feel?" — can be considered pushy in Japan. One morning a reporter from a TV magazine show asked a homeless person at a shelter, "Don't you feel cold?" The network received a flood of calls complaining that the reporter had intruded on the person's privacy.

The differences were not all black and white, of course. There were certainly many Japanese stories about pain and bitterness among the victims, and many Western reports dealt with the striking calm and the strong sense of order in Kobe after the quake.

Taken as a whole, though, the Eastern and Western reporting created distinctly different impressions among consumers of the news. This is reflected in the reactions of two people who came to Kobe a few days after the quake:

Shigehiko Togo, of The Washington Post's Tokyo bureau, had been watching Japanese TV reports from Kobe almost around the clock. But when he arrived here, he said, "I was just stunned at the extent of the damage."

A few days later an American journalist arrived, having watched earthquake news on the major American networks.

"I was amazed how much of Kobe was still there," she said. "I mean, I had watched hours and hours of TV in America about this earth-

quake, and I had no idea that there were houses and tall buildings still standing all over the city."

Here in Kobe, several Western TV journalists broadcast their reports near a section of collapsed highway.

It made for a great picture — as long as the camera remained still. If the camera had panned slightly left or right, viewers would have seen a row of old wooden houses standing intact barely 10 meters away.

As a detailed study in the Japanese magazine Sunday Mainichi showed, it was the Western press that first began to pursue a aspect that became a major subtext of quake coverage: that Japan's government made a major blunder by failing to provide rescue and relief supplies as quickly as possible.

"The Japanese press just did not see that story, or did not report it, at first," said a media critic, Yoichi Matsuzoe. "They weren't looking for a confrontational story. They were covering an earthquake, not criticizing the government."

"But after the foreign press kept hitting on this issue, the Japanese media picked it up and started hitting the government hard themselves."

The Japanese have a strong tradition of enduring something difficult without complaint; they have a word for it, *gaman*. Because *gaman* is a cherished virtue, and because the Japanese do not open up easily to strangers, not many victims complained openly to reporters, domestic or foreign, about conditions after the quake.

But when Western reporters heard complaints, they tended to feature the critical remarks at the top of their reports, mentioning only in passing that most residents of Kobe were apparently voicing no complaints.

Among the most interesting reports on the earthquake were those in the South Korean news media. In this century Korea was subjected to four decades of brutal colonization by Japan, and the news media there still eagerly grab any reason for Japan-bashing.

Se Hyon Cho, a columnist for the Korea Herald newspaper wrote that the calm, orderly behavior of the residents of Kobe proved that Japanese are "automatons."

But over time, the Korean reports became more positive, partly because quake victims of Korean ancestry were receiving the same treatment that Japanese victims did. Even Mr. Se wrote that he eventually came to admire the Japanese people's "amazing power of self-discipline, perseverance and solidarity."

WORLD BRIEFS

Serbs Make Small Gesture on Access

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — Serbs eased their grip Wednesday on a major road into Sarajevo, opening it to international charities. But the route remained closed to everyone else in the Bosnian capital, which has been cut off from the outside world since July.

UN officials, who have been trying to get the road open under terms of a Dec. 31 truce agreement, sought to portray signs of progress as two trucks carrying construction materials crossed into the government-held suburb of Dobrinja. "The fact that it is open to anyone is a success," said Enrique Aguilar, the chief UN civilian affairs officer. "We'll see more humanitarian aid entering the city."

But with other access roads available for UN aid trucks and the airift into Sarajevo working without major hitches in recent weeks, the limited opening of the road through Sarajevo airport into the city appeared to be a modest concession by the Serbs.

2 Sentenced for Neo-Nazi 'Hit List'

FRANKFURT (Reuters) — Two Germans who published a neo-Nazi "hit list" of anti-racist activists have been convicted of intimidation and public incitement to commit a crime. Norman Kempken, 26, was sentenced to two years in prison and Stephan Cimic, 23, to a one-year suspended term.

The list raised fears in Germany of a surge in neo-Nazi activity after it was published in late 1993 in an extremist magazine, *Der Einblick*, which was distributed from an anonymous post-office box in Denmark.

The magazine, which promised "troubled nights" to people it called "anti-nationalist," published the names of about 280 persons it considered enemies of the far-right cause, including trade unionists, politicians, judges, teachers, social workers and writers.

EU-Baltic States Accord Is Expected

BRUSSELS (AP) — The European Union said Wednesday that talks for broad economic and political accords with Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia may be concluded as early as April 1.

Hard work is under way to conclude so-called Europe Agreements with the Baltic states, said Nico Wegner, an EU Commission spokesman. "Maybe within two months this could be concluded," he added.

The agreements are the basis of a plan to let East European nations into the Union at an unspecified date. On Wednesday, accords between the EU and Bulgaria, Romania and the Czech and Slovak republics took effect bringing those nations a step closer to European Union membership.

U.S. Returns Cubans to Guantánamo

PANAMA CITY (AP) — The first group of 100 Cuban refugees left Panama on Wednesday for the U.S. Naval Base at Guantánamo Bay, Cuba.

About 50 U.S. soldiers carrying wooden batons accompanied the group aboard a 727 charter flight, which is taking the refugees to camps on the eastern end of Cuba. By the time the first group was in the air, soldiers were already preparing another plane for the second flight.

"Everything is going pretty smoothly," said Colonel David Holland, a U.S. Army spokesman.

Vietnam Opens Liaison Office in U.S.

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — Vietnam raised its flag in Washington on Wednesday for the first time since the Vietnam War ended 20 years ago, as the two old foes opened liaison offices in each other's capitals.

With about a dozen U.S. Secret Service agents providing security, Le Van Bang, Hanoi's envoy to the United Nations, presided over a low-key ceremony in the office. Mr. Bang will head the mission here. The United States opened its office in Hanoi on Saturday.

One of the Vietnam mission's key functions, apart from working to resolve the cases of hundreds of U.S. servicemen still missing in Indochina since the war, will be to speed up the issuing of visas to U.S. businessmen and investors. No U.S. officials attended the ceremony.

Taiwan Says Airliner Flew Too Low

TAIPEI (Reuters) — A Taiwanese airliner was flying too low when it hit a mountain on a wet night this week, killing all four people aboard, aviation officials said Wednesday.

They said the Foshing Airlines twin turboprop ATR-72 was flying at about 1,000 feet (about 300 meters) through the rain Monday night when it crashed less than 15 minutes before it was to have landed in Taipei. It should have been flying at 2,100 to 2,500 feet, said Chang Kuo-cheng, an aviation official. Foshing is also called TransAsia Airways.

TRAVEL UPDATE

Alitalia Seeks Talks on Pilots' Strikes

ROME (Reuters) — Alitalia called on Wednesday for talks with pilots to end a string of strikes over pay and the use of leased Australian aircraft.

In the latest disruption, about 150 pilots surrounded two of the leased Boeing 767s in their parking bays at Rome's main airport, Fiumicino. The aircraft left for Chicago and Boston three hours behind schedule.

Cabin crew also picketed check-in desks at Fiumicino during a four-hour strike, and the pilots added to the pressure by calling a 24-hour strike next Monday.

A strike by firefighters on Thursday will delay and possibly cancel flights at Paris' two airports, Orly and Roissy-Charles-de-Gaulle, airport officials said. Aéroport de Paris said that to comply with safety rules during the 24-hour strike, only one of the two runways at each of the airports would be in service. (AP)

The telephone network at Frankfurt International Airport was damaged by unknown assailants on Wednesday, hampering operations at the busiest air hub in Europe, officials said. Seven cable harnesses were severed overnight, German Telecom said, shutting off most of the airport's telephone system and the electronic reservations systems of several airlines.

Flooding in Europe Spares Rail Traffic

International Herald Tribune
Flooding and the threat of flooding has disrupted peoples' lives and road traffic over a wide zone of northwestern Europe, but bad had a minimal effect on the circulation of trains.

Spokesmen for the French, German, Belgian and Dutch railroads said that most services had continued to run normally. International services have been virtually unaffected.

The worst problem was along the Rhine River in Germany where the rail line along the left bank was flooded in places and traffic had to be suspended. But trains were switched to a track on the other side of the river usually used for freight traffic, causing delays of up to 30 minutes. Some traffic from Switzerland was delayed because of bad weather and heavy snow further south.

Commuter travel in Cologne, which was flooded in places, with up to two meters of water, was disrupted more seriously, however.

A landslide blocked one track on the line between Namur in Belgium and the Luxembourg border, and engineers switched trains to another track that was not affected. Spokesman for the Belgian railroad system, one of the denser in the world, said this caused delays of up to five minutes.

Dutch railroads stopped service to a few rural stations because of the flooding and large-scale evacuations, spokesman said that most of the system had operated normally and on time.

French railroads suspended some services in Britain week because of flooding, but services in the east of France were operating normally or with only slight delays because of the overflow of the Meuse River, a spokesman said.

Hiroshima Bomb: Just a Warning to Moscow?

By John Kifner
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Fifty years after a B-29 Superfortress called the Enola Gay was used to drop an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, the decision that ushered in the age of nuclear weapons is still the subject of fierce historical debate.

The issues, stirring enormous passions, range from highly speculative estimates of just how many Americans might have died in an invasion of Japan, and who were thus presumably spared because of the bombing, to whether the nuclear attack in August 1945 was necessary to end the war.

Some historians now contend that the bombing was aimed not so much at the wartime enemy Japan as at the wartime ally Soviet Union, as a warning against postwar rivalry.

In the latest clash, the Smithsonian Institution, attacked by veterans' groups and members of Congress for an exhibit that they said was overly solicitous of Japan, has decided to drastically scale back the display. The narrative, already revised five times, will be dropped; visitors will see only part of the Enola Gay's fuselage.

Questions, sometimes raised by a new generation horrified by the death and destruction that rained down on Hiroshima, and, three days later, on Nagasaki, resonate harshly among veterans, particularly those who survived the bloody campaign in the Pacific.

Amid historians digging through musty diaries, old military records, and memorandums of Presidet Harry S. Truman's administration, opinions about the bombing of Hiroshima are held on thin firmy.

"I think it can be proven that the bomb was not only unnecessary, but known in advance to be necessary," said Gar Alperovitz, one of the most prominent of the historians critical of the decision to drop the bomb.

The use of the A-bomb did not raise profound moral issues for policymakers.

Barton J. Bernstein, a historian

that the estimates of casualties that might have been incurred during an invasion of Japan should be put at around 63,000, down from the 229,000 that had been widely accepted among historians.

He explained: "By early 1945, World War II — especially in the Pacific — had become virtually total war. The fire-

that of projected casualties, Mr. Bernstein said in an interview, "is so important to the vets" because any lessening of these numbers could be interpreted as raising questions about the bombing and, in a sense, diminishing their role.

Casualty estimates have ranged as high as the half-million cited in Mr. Truman's memoirs and the 1 million referred to by Winston S. Churchill years after the war. These figures were often taken by the public to mean that these many lives had been saved. But Mr. Bernstein and other military historians caution that casualties refer to both dead and wounded, with the wounded usually outnumbering the dead by 3, 4 or 5 to 1.

"Coosidering the horrific fighting on Iwo Jima and Okinawa, the prospect of invading Japan itself seemed nightmarish," Peter Maslowski, a professor at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, writes in the forthcoming *Military History Quarterly*.

"Looking back on the events of 1945 from a secure, peaceful, comfortable perch decades later, it is easy to criticize Presi-

dent Truman's decision to drop the atomic bombs," Mr. Maslowski writes.

He adds: "But considering the possible drawbacks associated with the other options, his choice was entirely logical and reasonable."

Mr. Alperovitz disagrees. He contends that the decision of the Soviet Union to join the war against Japan at the Potsdam Conference in July 1945 was expected by Mr. Truman to spell the end of the war, and that the Americans were already aware of peace overtures from the emperor.

Instead, he contends, American policy shifted, largely under the influence of the president's old congressional mentor James Byrnes, the secretary of state, who wanted to block Russia from moving into northern China and to deliver a warning for the future with the bomb.

"It was once controversial among specialists to say the bomb was connected with diplomatic toward Russia," Mr. Alperovitz said. "That's no longer controversial. What's being debated is the emphasis."

Japanese tend to regard the attacks as having inflicted such misery as to be unjustifiable, and many accept the views of some historians that President Harry S. Truman acted partly out of a desire to demonstrate his new weapon to Moscow.

Japanese tend to regard the attacks as having inflicted such misery as to be unjustifiable, and many accept the views of some historians that President Harry S. Truman acted partly out of a desire to demonstrate his new weapon to Moscow.

Mr. Peres said ambiguity was the right stance. "We have one commitment and that is out to clear the fog away completely because of those who want to destroy us," he said.

Peres Says No' to Pact On Nuclear Weapons

The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Ruling out compromise, the foreign minister of Israel said Wednesday that his country would not sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

The treaty, signed by more than 160 countries, is up for renewal in April. Egypt has said it will not sign the treaty unless Israel does so.

If Israel signed the treaty, it would have to end its policy of nuclear ambiguity, which has served as an effective deterrent against hostile nations such as Iraq and Iran, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said.

"Israel will not sign" the treaty, Mr. Peres said Wednesday before leaving for Egypt, where he was expected to discuss the issue with President Hosni Mubarak.

"I see no reason why Israel should assure Iraq, Iran and Libya that they have nothing to worry about, that they can try and destroy Israel," said Mr. Peres, a founder of Israel's nuclear program.

His remarks on Israeli radio were the most detailed by an Israeli leader on the nuclear issue since Egypt began its campaign last year to get Israel to sign the treaty.

Israel has never publicly admitted to having nuclear weapons. But recent foreign reports, based in part on satellite photographs, say Israel has seven installations for making, testing and storing an arsenal of up to 300 nuclear bombs.

Mr. Peres said ambiguity was the right stance. "We have one commitment and that is out to clear the fog away completely because of those who want to destroy us," he said.

Along the way he won virtually every theatrical award as well as many other honors: He shared a Pulitzer Prize for "Fiorillo" (which also won a Drama Critics Circle Award and two Tony Awards) and received Tonys for "Pajama Game" in 1955, "Damn Yankees" in 1956 and "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" in 1963 as well as a special Tony for a career of distinguished achievement in theater.

Halfway into his 99th year, Mr. Abbott telephoned his secretary to tell her that he was sending two plays he had written between rounds of golf. In 1989, when he was 102, he co-directed one of them, "Franke," off-Broadway.

George Abbott at a 1994 revival of "Damn Yankees."

George Abbott, Known as Mr. Broadway, Dies at 107

By Marilyn Berger
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — George F. Abbott, 107, who opened on Broadway in 1913 and didn't close for more than 70 years, died of a stroke Tuesday at his Miami Beach home.

DEATH NOTICE

THE AMERICAS / 'THESE ARE CEILINGS'

Republicans Retreat on Defense Bill

By Dana Priest
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Congressional Republicans, yielding to pressure to reduce the budget deficit, have backed away from key promises in the House Republicans' "Contract With America" and agreed to a revised defense bill that watered down its pledge to reverse the decline in defense spending.

Before approval of the defense bill late Tuesday by the House National Security Committee, some of the staunchest defense advocates had conceded that the larger mission of slashing federal spending had prevailed.

"The primary objective is not to spend more money," said H. James Saxon, Republican of New Jersey. "We're realistic

enough to know that in this budget year there are ceilings."

Democrats contended that the changes had turned much of the bill into a "chest-beating" exercise, as Representative Patrick J. Schroeder, Democrat of Colorado, described it in an interview.

The changes follow an unusual dressing down of the committee last week by Defense Secretary William J. Perry, who said the bill misled the public about military readiness and "usurps the responsibilities" of the defense secretary.

If members found him "incapable or unwilling to meet those responsibilities," he said, "you should ask me to step down."

The original bill called on the Defense Department to deploy "at the earliest possible date"

an anti-missile defense system that Pentagon officials and others testified would cost billions, if not tens of billions, of dollars and was unnecessary in the post-Cold War era. The new bill instructs the Pentagon to deploy such a system "at the earliest practical date."

The old bill set up a Republican-dominated commission to reassess military needs and "reverse the continuing downward spiral of defense spending." The new one would set up a bipartisan commission to assess needs and "to address the problems posed by the continuing downward spiral of defense spending."

The tone of the new bill had also softened by Tuesday's meeting. The old one said a return of the "hollow forces" of

the 1970s had already begun under the Clinton administration. The new one said Congress was committed to "take all necessary steps to avoid a return to the 'hollow forces' of the 1970s."

Left unchanged was the significant foreign-policy portion of the bill, which is the jurisdiction of another committee, the House International Relations Committee. That committee approved a measure that would sharply curtail U.S. participation in United Nations peacekeeping missions and prohibit U.S. troops from serving under foreign command.

The only major amendment

Democrats were able to put through eliminated a 1999 deadline for offering membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to Poland and some other East European nations.

National defense is not the only contract issue to run into obstacles as Republicans press to meet their 100-day deadline to complete action on their 10-point agenda:

• A dispute between two Republican senators has slowed action in the Senate on line-item veto legislation to give the president expanded powers to cut spending.

• The balanced-budget amendment is drawing strong resistance in the Senate from Democrats who insist that the measure be altered to protect Social Security retirement benefits.

But the House neared passage of legislation to relieve states of the costs of regulations imposed on them by the federal government, and a House committee continued to rewrite the \$30 billion anti-crime law enacted last year.

The governors' association adopted a policy statement saying: "Governors have not yet reached consensus on whether cash and other entitlement assistance should remain available as federal entitlements to needy families or whether it should be converted to a state entitlement block grant. Governors do agree, however, that in either case states should have the flexibility to enact welfare reforms without having to request federal waivers."

The association's statement says that "children must be protected throughout this process" if Congress decides to convert the existing welfare program to a block grant. (NYT)

POLITICAL NOTES

Seawolf Submarine Is Facing Some Big Guns in the Senate

WASHINGTON — Congressional critics of the third and final Seawolf submarine, being designed by General Dynamics Corp., are resuming efforts to kill it. They stand a better chance now that the Republicans have taken over Congress.

The military wants the third \$2.4 billion Seawolf not because it is needed for military reasons, but because canceling it would cause more layoffs at General Dynamics' Electric Boat shipyards in New England.

Conservative Republicans tend to oppose such intervention in the marketplace. Senator John S. McCain 3d of Arizona leads the anti-Seawolf faction on the Senate Armed Services Committee. A hard-charger in cutting Pentagon projects he thinks are wasteful, Mr. McCain is a former navy pilot who flew jets off aircraft carriers. Carriers and submarines compete for funds.

Senator John W. Warner of Virginia, another member of the committee, promotes the interests of one of his state's biggest employers, Newport News Shipbuilding. For years it competed with Electric Boat to build submarines, but the Pentagon designated Electric Boat as the nation's single submarine manufacturer, meaning Newport News had to survive solely by making carriers. (WP)

Governors Want More Power To Design Welfare Programs

WASHINGTON — The National Governors' Association says that the states ought to have far more power to design their own welfare programs, but the governors could

not agree on how much power the federal government should retain. In any event, they said, "children must be protected."

At the end of a four-day meeting here, the governors hailed federal efforts to give them more control over millions of dollars worth of welfare programs. But Republican governors could not obtain the three-fourths majority needed to put the organization on record in support of their proposal to give states a lump sum of money, or block grant, to take care of poor people.

Under the main federal-state welfare program, Aid to Families with Dependent Children, anyone who meets the eligibility criteria set by federal and state laws is entitled to monthly cash payments, regardless of the number of people who apply or the total cost. In hard times, when more people are unemployed, the amount of federal aid automatically increases.

The governors' association adopted a policy statement saying: "Governors have not yet reached consensus on whether cash and other entitlement assistance should remain available as federal entitlements to needy families or whether it should be converted to a state entitlement block grant. Governors do agree, however, that in either case states should have the flexibility to enact welfare reforms without having to request federal waivers."

The association's statement says that "children must be protected throughout this process" if Congress decides to convert the existing welfare program to a block grant. (NYT)

Quote/Unquote

Senator Phil Gramm, Republican of Texas, on President Bill Clinton's package of aid measures for Mexico: "Ultimately, it's going to come down to what Mexico does, not what we do." (AP)

I've Had Dreams of Killing Her' Friend Says Simpson Made Comment Day After Slaying

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The day after his former wife was slain to death, O.J. Simpson told a friend he had had dreams of killing her, the friend testified Wednesday.

"He jokingly said, 'To be honest, Shipp, I've had some dreams of killing her,'" a former police officer, Ronald Shipp said during Mr. Simpson's murder trial.

When asked about the number of dreams by Christopher Darden, a deputy district attorney,

Away From Politics

- After an impassioned statement by the mother of a Rockland County, New York, "carjacking" victim, a judge sentenced a former college student to 70 years to life in prison for the car theft and for the slaying of Michael Falcone in January 1994. (NYT)
- The FBI has agreed to pay a former agent, Suzanne J. Doucette, nearly \$300,000 to settle her lawsuit charging that her career was ruined after she accused a supervisor of sexual harassment, her attorney and the agency said. (WP)

- A large majority of Americans favor government bans on cigarette vending machines and on coupon promotions, to help prevent children from smoking, according to a poll conducted for a health issues foundation. (NYT)

- A gay and lesbian student group says the University of Notre Dame expelled it from campus unfairly after nine years. Officials at the Roman Catholic school in Indiana have repeatedly refused to recognize the group and said they had not realized it was meeting in the campus counseling center. (AP)

- A man shot and killed a graffiti vandal who threatened him with a screwdriver after he tried to take down a license plate number, Los Angeles police said. (AP)

ney, Mr. Shipp answered: "He just said dreams, plural."

Mr. Shipp, who retired from the police department five years ago, said he did not tell investigators about the conversation.

"I was in a state of shock up until that time," he said. "I wanted nothing to do with it. I was thinking it was a dream, like most of America."

Mr. Shipp added, "I thought it was very, it was harmful."

He also said Mr. Simpson told him that he had to defend himself from his wife's attacks during their New Year's 1989 argument, and that it began while they were having sex.

Mr. Shipp testified that he and Mrs. Simpson had been drinking on New Year's Eve and that they got into an argument when they returned home.

"They were making love and I guess Nicole had wanted to stop for whatever reasons and they began to argue," Mr. Shipp said. Mr. Simpson told him that she "was the aggressor and came after him and that he was acting in self-defense."

Mr. Shipp said Mr. Simpson told him he "didn't really hit her."

Later, Mr. Shipp testified about Mr. Simpson's conversation about the dream. It was not immediately clear why he was allowed to be questioned about it with the jury present.

Judge Lance A. Ito of Superior Court ruled before Mr. Shipp took the stand that he could tell the jury about the Simpson's relationship, but not about the dream.

Before that ruling, Hank

Goldberg, a deputy district attorney, said testimony about the conversation of last June 13 would help prove that Mr. Simpson had fatally stabbed Nicole Brown Simpson in a jealous rage.

A defense attorney, Carl Douglas, objected, claiming "the conversation did not occur."

Mr. Goldberg told the judge the statement was "powerful evidence" of Mr. Simpson's "fatal obsession" with his former wife.

Mr. Shipp was identified by Mr. Douglas as the mysterious "Leo" in the opening pages of "Raging Heart," a new book about the case.

Mr. Shipp said he and Mr. Simpson had been close friends for more than 25 years. When asked by Mr. Darden if they were still friends, he said: "I still love the guy, but I don't know, I mean, this is a weird situation I'm sitting in."

Two or three days after Nicole Simpson was beaten on New Year's 1989, she still had injuries but they had started to fade, Mr. Shipp said.

Mr. Shipp said Mr. Simpson told him he was worried about losing his job as a Hertz rental car pitchman because of publicity about the beating.

"He asked me to see if I could have her sign off the report," Mr. Shipp said, "not press charges." Mr. Shipp said he did discuss it with his supervisor, even though "I was caught between a rock and a hard place," he said. "I wanted to try and help O.J. out, but at the same time I didn't want to do it."

The American University of Paris presents the fourth annual seminar on

NEGOTIATION

conducted by professors

Deborah M. Kolb & Jeffrey Z. Rubin

of

THE PROGRAM on NEGOTIATION at HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

- Effective training in negotiation techniques and dispute resolution for senior management

- Lectures, demonstrations and exercises, conducted in English

Paris: March 30 & 31, 1995

Contact: The American University of Paris Tel.: (33-1) 47.20.44.99 Fax: (33-1) 47.20.45.64

50% more legroom and recline. Your own multi-channel video and a better choice of meals. All together it means more comfort, control and choice.



©1994 KLM and Northwest Airlines Inc. World Business Class services available on KLM 747s and MD-11s and Northwest 747s and DC-10s. Northwest is currently installing the personal video system.

We've increased legroom and recline 50%SM

World Business ClassSM

KLM

NORTHWEST AIRLINES



Ecuadorian students watching one of their teachers burn a Peruvian flag Wednesday to show support of the government.

Peru and Ecuador Reported 'Close' to Truce

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

RIO DE JANEIRO — Ecuador and Peru have begun talking about a cease-fire to end border clashes but have made little progress, according to diplomats negotiating between the two nations.

National defense is not the only contract issue to run into obstacles as Republicans press to meet their 100-day deadline to complete action on their 10-point agenda:

• A dispute between two Republican senators has slowed action in the Senate on line-item veto legislation to give the president expanded powers to cut spending.

• The balanced-budget amendment is drawing strong resistance in the Senate from Democrats who insist that the measure be altered to protect Social Security retirement benefits.

But the House neared passage of legislation to relieve states of the costs of regulations imposed on them by the federal government, and a House committee continued to rewrite the \$30 billion anti-crime law enacted last year.

The governors' association adopted a policy statement saying: "Governors have not yet reached consensus on whether cash and other entitlement assistance should remain available as federal entitlements to needy families or whether it should be converted to a state entitlement block grant. Governors do agree, however, that in either case states should have the flexibility to enact welfare reforms without having to request federal waivers."

The association's statement says that "children must be protected throughout this process" if Congress decides to convert the existing welfare program to a block grant. (NYT)

tries. Argentina, Chile and the United States are the other guarantors.

Ecuador rejected the treaty in 1960, and border conflicts have frequently erupted before the Jan. 29 anniversary of the protocol.

During the talks, which began Tuesday and lasted until dawn Wednesday, representatives of the four countries met separately with the Peruvian and Ecuadoran deputy foreign ministers, Eduardo Ponce and Manuel Fernandez de Cordoba.

Antonio Simoes, the spokesman for the Brazilian Foreign Ministry at the meeting, said the agenda Wednesday called for the guarantor countries to take a peace proposal separately to the Ecuadoran and Peruvian delegates. If they approve it, everyone will meet together.

Ecuador announced a cease-fire on Tuesday, but Peru has refused to do the same, drawing a rebuke on Wednesday from the Rio diplomats.

(Reuters, AP)

U.S. Human Rights Study Turns Heat on Russia

By Steven Greenhouse
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration harshly criticized Russia on Wednesday for a series of human rights abuses, asserting that Moscow violated international agreements by attacking civilians when it invaded the breakaway region of Chechnya.

It also accused Russia of making arbitrary arrests, beating prisoners and allowing mi-

itary recruits to be abused in systematic hazing.

In the State Department's annual human rights report, the administration stepped up its criticisms of Moscow's intervention in Chechnya by citing with approval statements made by Russia's human rights commission that violations took place on a "massive scale" in the mostly Muslim republic.

The report attacked Moscow

for carrying out air strikes that killed and injured hundreds of civilians and destroyed most residential and public buildings in the capital of Grozny, including hospitals and an orphanage.

In assessing the human rights situation in more than 160 countries, the State Department reserved its harshest criticisms for America's perennial adversaries, including North Korea, Cuba, Iran and Iraq. But the report also had surpris-

ingly tough words for the human rights performance in a number of friendly nations, including Mexico, Indonesia, Guatemala and Turkey.

Just a day after President Bill Clinton announced a \$20 billion plan to save Mexico's economy from collapse, the report used stinging language to criticize electoral fraud there, killings by Mexican police, the systematic torture of prisoners and stark discrimination against the

country's indigenous population.

The report praised Mexico for setting up a commission for human rights but added, "By year's end, however, it had tried and punished few human-rights abusers, and abuses remained widespread."

The report faulted Russia for far more than its actions in Chechnya. It criticized President Boris N. Yeltsin for issuing decrees that conflict with constitutional rights against arbitrary arrests and illegal searches and seizures.

The concept of the rule of law has yet to be institutionalized and implemented," it said.

Russia's law-enforcement officials often beat prisoners, the report noted, prisons are overcrowded and teeming with disease and the military allows such violent hazing of conscripts that many commit suicide. The report used some of its harshest language to condemn the Russian practice in which many lesbians are sent to psychiatric hospitals where they are often prescribed chemical treatments.

The report noted that there were no known political killings in Russia by agents of the government. But after noting the murders of a journalist and several legislators, it added that "the line between politically motivated killings and criminal activities has become difficult to distinguish."

Administration officials say that by training a spotlight on their records, the human rights report will pressure Russia and other nations to improve their performance. As for Chechnya, the administration hopes that at meetings of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Moscow will acknowledge its violations in Chechnya and promise to stop them.

The report noted that forced abortions and sterilization occur in China, although such practices are not authorized by the government. It also reports accusations that China has forced prisoners to donate their organs for transplants.

And Chinese officials have refused repeated U.S. requests to establish regular high-level talks on its exports of weapons as well as equipment and technology that could be used in nuclear missile or weapons programs.

As for Tibet, the report concludes that

the human rights situation there worsened in 1994. Chinese authorities committed "widespread human rights abuses," it says, including torture, arbitrary arrest, detention and prosecution of Buddhist monks and nuns who express dissenting views in public and rigid controls on freedom of speech and the press.

On the positive side, the report praises, among other things, the passage of a law that gives citizens the right to sue the government for improper treatment, although the law has yet to be carried out.

Washington's frustration with Beijing is so intense that even the most ardent supporters of the administration's policy acknowledge that they are deeply disappointed.

These officials are also concerned that the policy setbacks will enhance the chances of leading Republican lawmakers, like Senators Frank H. Murkowski of Alaska and Jesse Helms of North Carolina, to upgrade Washington's relationship with Taiwan.

As for the administration's campaign to persuade Beijing to cooperate on curbing the spread of nuclear and ballistic missile technology, China has rebuffed a U.S. proposal offered last year to forgive Chinese violations of an international missile accord and waive possible sanctions if China admitted the violations.

And Chinese officials have refused repeated U.S. requests to establish regular high-level talks on its exports of weapons as well as equipment and technology that could be used in nuclear missile or weapons programs.

As for Tibet, the report concludes that

sufferer surrounded by his family, the bloodstained clothing of a dead Croatian soldier and a two-page assemblage of male and female genitalia that was not allowed to appear in Britain.

The manufacturer said it wanted the campaign to provoke thinking about stigmatization.

Provocative it certainly was. In Germany and France, the company's sales suffered after the advertisements appeared, and some Benetton franchisees refused to pay their bills.

In France, Olivier Bernard-Rousseau, 30, an AIDS sufferer in the terminal stages of the disease, took out a full-page protest advertisement in *Libération*, one of the daily newspapers that had published the series, in October 1993. It showed his emaciated face and the caption: "During the agony, the sale goes on."

"I felt like I was punched in the stomach," he said at the time, explaining his reaction to Benetton's AIDS posters.



Senator Giovanni Agnelli with his sister, Foreign Minister Susanna Agnelli, before the Senate vote on Wednesday.

Dini Passes 2d Test, Winning Senate Vote

The Associated Press

ROME — Prime Minister Lamberto Dini won a Senate confidence vote on Wednesday, completing parliamentary approval of a nonpartisan government that he has pledged will last only a few months.

Mr. Dini was backed by former Communists and other center-left senators while the conservative bloc loyal to his predecessor, Silvio Berlusconi, walked out before the confidence vote although it has pledged support for his programs.

Before the vote, Mr. Dini asked for Parliament's support for his plan to rein in the budget deficit and regain the confidence of the markets in Italy.

The Senate voted, 191 to 17, to confirm Mr. Dini's two-week-old government. There were two formal abstentions, and more than 100 senators, mainly Mr. Berlusconi's bloc, skipped the vote altogether.

Last week when the lower Chamber of Deputies approved Mr. Dini's government, Mr. Berlusconi's bloc abstained.

But in the upper chamber, a formal abstention is considered tantamount to a "no" vote, so it would not go on record as voting against Mr. Dini.

Weeks of fighting within the coalition and a no-confidence motion by one of his government partners forced Mr. Berlusconi to resign Dec. 22.

Aggravating political tensions was then a bribery inquiry into Mr. Berlusconi's Fininvest business. On Wednesday, Italian newspapers reported that prosecutors have begun another investigation of Mr. Berlusconi's businesses. They reported that he is suspected of falsifying the ledgers, perhaps in connection with his AC Milan soccer team.

Aid to Mexico Brings U.S. Officials Relief

By Paul F. Horvitz
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — U.S. officials expressed a mix of relief, satisfaction and wariness Wednesday in the aftermath of President Bill Clinton's swift decision to prop up Mexican financial markets without action by Congress.

The president said he was encouraged by the international response to his rescue plan, which added \$11 billion in new U.S. credit for Mexico to \$15 billion in fresh credit infusions from international lending organizations.

Mr. Clinton acted after fierce opposition by some Democrats and Republicans in Congress forced him to drop his plan for legislation that would have given Mexico \$40 billion in loan guarantees.

Mexico now has nearly \$50 billion in short-, medium- and long-term credit available from the United States, other wealthy nations, a consortium of Latin American neighbors and the International Monetary Fund. The U.S. share is \$20 billion.

"I think it was the right thing to do," Mr. Clinton said early Wednesday, adding, "It was good for our country, it was good for our jobs, good for the stability of the region."

While some members of Congress remained critical of the White House decision to offer credit from the Exchange Stabilization Fund, which is used to bolster foreign currencies, the speaker of the House, Newt Gingrich, declared, "It was only practical thing to do."

"I commend the president for his decisiveness," the Georgia Republican said. "It was a very sobering, very hard decision."

Mr. Mayhew's job was made more difficult by the slant of The Times article. The first paragraph said that the document "brings the prospect of a united U.S.-Mexican relationship, including immigration, economic issues, illegal drugs and political stability."

The speaker suggested that with the rescue plan in place, President Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León's government would expand cooperation with Washington on a range of issues.

"My impression," Mr. Gingrich said, "is that President Zedillo's also coming to recognize that some of these issues have to be mutually discussed; it can't just be the United States always carrying the total load. And I think you're going to see more cooperation out of Mexico over the next few years."

According to The Associated Press, lawmakers from both parties complained bitterly that Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher and Treasury Secretary Robert E. Rubin canceled an appearance Wednesday before the House International Relations Committee.

"They chose not to come up here because they didn't want to face the heat," said Representative Danny L. Burton, an Indiana Republican.

The chairman of the House Republican caucus, John A. Boehner of Ohio, said hearings would be held in Congress to examine the White House role in the Mexican crisis and the powers the president exercised Tuesday to tap the stabilization fund in unprecedented ways.

But Republican leaders have said that the Democrat did not exceed his legal authority.

At its last public accounting, the fund had about \$37 billion in assets, but \$12 billion had already been allocated. The Treasury had given Mexico the right to draw \$9 billion before Mr. Clinton allocated \$11 billion more.

ULSTER: Snag in the Talks

Continued from Page 1

tary of state cannot expect any self-respecting unionist to sit down at the table if that is going to be on the agenda," he said.

The document, he charged, was "the price he has paid to get a deal with Gerry Adams," referring to the head of Sinn Fein.

James Molyneaux, who heads the Ulster Unionist Party and controls their nine votes that are so crucial to Mr. Major, was more restrained. But even he indicated that he felt the parties of Ulster have "all been effectively excluded from discussions."

Mr. Mayhew's job was made more difficult by the slant of The Times article. The first paragraph said that the document "brings the prospect of a united U.S.-Mexican relationship, including immigration, economic issues, illegal drugs and political stability."

The speaker suggested that with the rescue plan in place, President Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León's government would expand cooperation with Washington on a range of issues.

"My impression," Mr. Gingrich said, "is that President Zedillo's also coming to recognize that some of these issues have to be mutually discussed; it can't just be the United States always carrying the total load. And I think you're going to see more cooperation out of Mexico over the next few years."

According to The Associated Press, lawmakers from both parties complained bitterly that Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher and Treasury Secretary Robert E. Rubin canceled an appearance Wednesday before the House International Relations Committee.

"The central point, The Times said, was the creation of a north-south authority with power over agriculture, trade, education and health.

In Paris, the Seine dropped a few centimeters after rising nearly five meters above normal.

FLOODS: Dikes Threatened

Continued from Page 1

chem and Boven-Hardinxveld, which are east of the giant port of Rotterdam on the Waal River. In Gorinchem, the threat was considered so imminent that the government sent the police to force out residents reluctant to leave.

Experts said that if the dikes gave way, large areas would be submerged under several meters of water within a few hours. Soldiers and volunteers worked around the clock to buttress endangered dikes with heavy beams and sandbags.

Huge areas of the Netherlands lie below sea level, and the country poured most of its defense efforts into strengthening the coastal dikes after devastating floods in 1953 that killed more than 1,800 people. Now the government acknowledges that more must be done to strengthen the river defenses after the second serious flooding in 13 months.

A major problem is that the country is at the mercy of policies in countries farther east. Industrialization and the changing and straightening of the River Rhine for shipping and large traffic in Germany mean that waters from as far away as the Swiss Alps arrive with devastating speed.

As floods that forced 6,000 people to leave their homes receded in western and northern France, the French government outlined plans to improve the defenses of areas prone to flooding.

The environment minister, Michel Barnier, said that building near rivers would be made more difficult and that river banks would be strengthened after decades of neglect.

"It will no longer be possible to build anywhere and anyhow," Mr. Barnier said.

The government also planned measures for replanting hedges and restoring wetlands.

In Paris, the Seine dropped a few centimeters after rising nearly five meters above normal.

Benetton Ordered to Compensate AIDS Sufferers

By Craig R. Whitney
New York Times Service

PARIS — A French court ordered the Benetton clothing chain Wednesday to pay \$32,000 in damages to French victims of the HIV virus for an advertising campaign showing body parts tattooed with the expression "HIV positive."

The company said it would appeal.

AIDES, a group supporting French victims of AIDS, and three people carrying the human immunodeficiency virus sued the French subsidiary of the Italian-based chain in 1993, arguing that the campaign was offensive to those suffering from acquired immune deficiency syndrome, which is caused by the virus.

On Wednesday, the court, in Paris, said that the campaign was an abuse of freedom of expression and "a provocative exploitation of suffering." But it rejected the claim that the advertisements had invaded personal privacy, according to the company.

The court ordered Benetton to pay 166,000 francs (\$32,000) in damages and said that if the advertising campaign continued, the company could be forced to pay an additional 30,000 francs for each poster it displayed.

Laurence Bricq, a spokeswoman for the company, said the advertisements were not currently in use in France.

"The Benetton company is astonished that the court at no time took into consideration the numerous messages of support and even enthusiasm received both from associations and sufferers, which remain for the company proof of the usefulness of its action," Benetton said in a statement released by its Paris office.

Benetton also said that it had participated in the fight against AIDS by making donations and undertaking other actions worldwide.

Its controversial advertisements for United Colors of Benetton also included images of a dying AIDS

sufferer surrounded by his family, the bloodstained clothing of a dead Croatian soldier and a two-page assemblage of male and female genitalia that was not allowed to appear in Britain.

The manufacturer said it wanted the campaign to provoke thinking about stigmatization.

Provocative it certainly was. In Germany and France, the company's sales suffered after the advertisements appeared, and some Benetton franchisees refused to pay their bills.

In France, Olivier Bernard-Rousseau, 30, an AIDS sufferer in the terminal stages of the disease, took out a full-page protest advertisement in *Libération*, one of the daily newspapers that had published the series, in October 1993. It showed his emaciated face and the caption: "During the agony, the sale goes on."

"I felt like I was punched in the stomach," he said at the time, explaining his reaction to Benetton's AIDS posters.

ISRAEL: Summit Aims to Stanch Loss of Support for the Peace Process

Continued from Page 1

public opinion that several Arab countries are coalescing toward peace," said an Egyptian official involved in preparing the talks.

King Hussein of Jordan, who is well-liked by Israelis and who

last month smoothed long-standing disputes in a friendly meeting with Mr. Arafat, is described by organizers as a calming force.

"King Hussein has met with Rabin more than 20 times," said Mohammed Subieh, Pales-

tinian ambassador to the Arab League. "He knows Rabin, and Rabin trusts him. And maybe it will relax Israeli public opinion."

A Western diplomat who has

both Mr. Arafat and Mr. Rabin needed more than "an-

other handshake on the White House lawn."

Mr. Arafat "is standing on one leg," Mr. Subieh said. "No economy. No food. No Jerusalem. Settlements everywhere. Arafat has never been in a worse position."

While some members of Congress remained critical of the White House decision to offer credit from the Exchange Stabilization Fund, which is used to bolster foreign currencies, the speaker of the House, Newt Gingrich, declared, "It was only practical thing to do."

"I commend the president for his decisiveness," the Georgia Republican said. "It was a very sobering, very hard decision."

Mr. Mayhew's job was made more difficult by the slant of The Times article. The first paragraph said that the document "brings the prospect of a united U.S.-Mexican relationship, including immigration, economic issues, illegal drugs and political stability."

The speaker suggested that with the rescue plan in place, President Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León's government would expand cooperation with Washington on a range of issues.

"My impression," Mr. Gingrich said, "is that President Zedillo's also coming to recognize that some of these issues have to

EUROPEAN TOPICS

Paris-Area Gypsies Can't Find A Place They Can Call Home

Gypsies and locals have long had a complex and uneasy relationship in many French towns. That's one reason for a 1990 law that says that unless towns set aside a properly equipped camp-ground for such travelers, an extended legal process is required to evict them.

Thus, at Evry, just outside of Paris, residents have been angrily demanding that the mayor do something about the Gypsies who parked 50 campers and mobile homes in a train station parking lot a month ago.

Since Evry does not provide an equipped camp-ground for the travelers, said Mayor Jacques Guyard, his hands are tied. To remedy the situation, he has sought official approval for several property sites, but with no luck. The Defense Ministry told him a site near a gendarmerie would pose "a danger to the security of France." A site near a sewage treatment plant was turned down by the prefect on grounds of hygiene. A frustrated Mr. Guyard then suggested a spot near the prefect's home. So far, he has had no answer.

Some campgrounds in nearby towns are in deplorable condition, reports the daily *Liberation*. One, in Vigneux, is in the middle of a network of train tracks in an industrial zone.

But near Brétigny, east of Paris, six cities have joined to provide an answer. They are building small family campgrounds, each big enough for three to six campers, each with sanitary facilities, and each with a permanent building for cooking — since some Gypsies don't like cooking in the same space where they sleep.

These sites are not far from Linas, where in World War II Gypsies were interned before being sent off to Nazi concentration camps.

Around Europe

Television ads for slimming products have been banned from British TV programs aimed at young people, out of growing concern about anorexia and other eating disorders. The Independent Television Commission said the ban was prompted by a government drive to promote a healthier diet.

Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson will move into Sweden's first official prime ministerial residence in April, although he and his wife say they would rather stay in their three-room suburban home.

"For security and other reasons, we have chosen to move into the Sagerska Palace," said Mr. Carlsson, who will be

the first prime minister to inhabit the residence. The large security presence around his suburban home posed an unfair burden on his neighbors, he said.

The French-inspired palace is at Stroemgatan 18 in central Stockholm, near the government offices.

London will offer free parking in the city's center to drivers of electric cars. The plan, approved by Westminster City Council, is said to be the first of its kind in Europe. For now, there are only about 10,000 such vehicles in use by individuals in the London area.

Finnish women have won the right to enlist for military service. Under the bill, just adopted by Parliament, women aged 17 to 29 may do the equivalent of men's compulsory service and then join the regular service and study in military college and other military schools.

An association representing Dutch prostitutes has mounted a publicity campaign aimed at improving their image. Posters and newspaper ads carry captions like "Good Social Contacts Are Necessary"; and a line at the bottom reads, "Prostitution: A Job Like Any Other." "It's true," says Margot Alvares, head of the association, "that our job is a little out of the ordinary." She adds, "you can say the same of gynecologists and grave diggers."

Brian Knowlton



LIFELIKE — Ute Kase-Lepp, an artist, kneeling Wednesday between the world's biggest porcelain chess figurines, made for a toy fair in Nuremberg. Wolfgang Karsai/Reuters

German Broadcaster Comes Under Attack

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BONN — Germany's leading public broadcasting service, ARD, is under attack from Chancellor Helmut Kohl and his Christian Union parties, who regard it as overmanned, too costly and politically suspect.

Premier Edmund Stoiber of Bavaria, a member of the ultra-conservative Christian Social Union, fired the first shot in October, when he called for a radical reform of the network, founded in 1954.

These two barons of Mr. Kohl's Christian Union alliance accuse the network of political bias and domination by West German Radio, known as WDR, the Cologne broadcaster and its principal regional component. WDR is considered sympathetic to the opposition Social Democrats.

Mr. Stoiber said he and Mr. Biedenkopf would break the contract ARD has with regional governments if there was no reform undertaken before the end of 1996, when the network's budget is reviewed.

Mr. Stoiber called for abolition of ARD's national television service and a rationalization of its regional services.

Given the popularity of the private TV stations RTL and Sat-1, he saw room for only one national public broadcasting

network. The other German public network is ZDF.

The debate sharpened with the publication of a 16-point restructuring plan for ARD devised by Mr. Stoiber and his Christian Democratic Union counterpart in Saxony, Kurt Biedenkopf.

These two barons of Mr. Kohl's Christian Union alliance accuse the network of political bias and domination by West German Radio, known as WDR, the Cologne broadcaster and its principal regional component. WDR is considered sympathetic to the opposition Social Democrats.

Mr. Stoiber said he and Mr. Biedenkopf would break the contract ARD has with regional governments if there was no reform undertaken before the end of 1996, when the network's budget is reviewed.

ARD, Germany's first television channel, is a federation of 11 regional public broadcasters and divides programming among them.

(AFP, Reuters)

INTERNATIONAL RECRUITMENT

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DIRECTOR

Institutional and Resource Development

This position gives leadership and expertise in the area of Institutional, Programme and Resource Development, including staff and volunteer development and will assist National Societies to become more effective in these areas. Key areas of Responsibilities: Provides expertise and methodology, design and lead a programme to develop National Society capacities; map and categorise National Society needs and capacities; assist in identifying specialized capacities within National Societies; promote cooperation and lead on policy proposals and corresponding procedures. Requirements: University degree in Political/Social Sciences or Management, 2 to 5 years experience at a senior level in Institutional/Organisational Development, minimum 2 years experience working in or with a Non Governmental Organizations and if possible with a consulting and training experience in the field. English is essential, other languages an additional asset.

Post is based in Geneva. The Federation is an equal opportunity employer.

Applications to be sent to the Human Resource Department by 17 February, 1995.

International Federation of Red Cross/Crescent Societies
P.O. box 372
CH-1211 GENEVA 19
Switzerland
Fax (022) 733 03 95

HUMAN RESOURCES SPECIALISTS

Paris Base

World Leader in International Telecommunications

Our Company is expanding its Corporate team of Human Resources Specialists that provide personnel direction, advice, control and audit for 4000 hi-tech staff worldwide. We require highly motivated candidates with up to 10 years' international experience. Areas of expertise needed include:

- Development/implementation of succession planning, performance appraisal and job evaluation programs in a global environment.
- Definition and control of Budget/Headcount levels.
- Audit and Control of remuneration and benefit systems.
- Management of expatriation conditions and supervision of international transfers.
- Harmonisation of world-wide terms and conditions of employment.

Successful candidates must possess the communication and presentation skills necessary to interact with all levels of personnel in various cultural environments.

Perfect knowledge of English and good level of French. Experience in computerized HR management tools.

Please forward your resume for consideration including salary requirements, and quoting ref 821 on the envelope to COMMUNIQUE - 50, rue de Sèvres - 75251 Boulogne-Billancourt Cedex - France - who will transmit.

Director Business Development

Our client is a well-known Swiss based multinational, with sales exceeding 1 billion US\$. We are entrusted with identifying a proven Business Development Director for one of their divisions. Reporting directly to the CEO his/her main tasks will include a broad spectrum of projects aiming at developing and refining business strategies for established and newly created subsidiaries in Western and Eastern Europe. We are therefore seeking to place a top professional with University/MBA or equivalent qualifications and a minimum of five years of relevant experience in i.e. market analysis, strategic planning or finance/consulting.

The ideal candidate has a background in industry (high tech, telecom, computers) or branded consumer goods. Also of interest is an experience in investment banking (M&A) resp. consulting, with a renowned firm. We are looking for an entrepreneurial and competitive individual in his/her thirties, who combines analytical and operational skills, leadership qualities and a good sense and understanding of multinational business. English and the knowledge of at least another European language are required, is willingness to travel.

If you are interested in this outstanding career opportunity, please fax or send your CV, in confidence, to Personnel & Management Consultants Inc., P.O. Box 315, CH-8030 Zurich, Tel.: +41-1-383 47 33, Fax: +41-1-383 70 68.

RADIO FREE EUROPE RADIO LIBERTY

Director of Information Services

Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty Inc., a private, non-profit corporation supported by the U.S. Congress, broadcasts in 21 languages to the nearly 400 million people of Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

We are currently moving our broadcasting operations from Munich, Germany to Prague, Czech Republic. With this move, we are introducing digital audio program production and upgrading our international telecommunications and management information systems.

Leading a staff of 25, the Director of Information Services will evaluate, implement and support the application of new information technology for RFE/RL's broadcasting and administrative needs. Responsibilities include vendor and contractor selection and management; departmental management, budgeting, staffing, and training and development of policies and procedures.

To qualify, candidates must have hands-on experience with client/server systems, large ethernet-based Local Area Networks, and International Wide Area Networks. They must have skills and flexibility to work in a fast-paced International environment and lead a talented staff. Experience in radio or television broadcasting is desirable.

We prefer to base this position in Prague, but we will consider Washington, D.C. location for exceptionally qualified candidates.

For consideration, please send your resume, salary history, references and location preferences, if any, to: RFE/RL, Inc., Personnel (ISD/DR), 1201 Connecticut Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20006. Fax: (202) 457-6974. Or RFE/RL, Inc., Box 86 (ISD/DR), Oettingenstr. 67, 81925 Munich, Germany. Fax: (89) 2102-3404. Review of applications will begin on 1 February.



The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations invites applications for the post of

EDITOR (FRENCH)

at its Headquarters in Rome, Italy

Responsibilities: To adapt manuscripts from English into French for CERES, the FAO Review on agriculture and development, to rewrite edit to magazine style its contents and to write articles.

Requirements: University degree in journalism, literature, agriculture, economic, social and political science or in another subject related to the work of the Organization. Five years of professional experience as a journalist with extensive newspaper and magazine background or in professional writing with experience in journalistic adaptation of text from English to French. Ability to adapt accurately technical/scientific articles, to edit and rewrite CERES' copy, to originate articles on agriculture and development issues. Ability to use word-processing equipment. Familiarity with page make-up requirements and layout. Excellent knowledge of French and working knowledge of English.

Benefits: The post carries a net salary per year (inclusive of a variable element for post adjustment) from US\$ 45,736 to US\$ 58,743 (without dependants) and from US\$ 48,992 to US\$ 63,270 (with dependants). Other benefits of the International Civil Service.

Please send detailed Curriculum Vitae no later than 10 March 1995 quoting VA 539-GI to: Personnel Officer, GIDX, FAO, Via delle Terme di Caracalla, 00100 Rome, Italy. Telex 610191 FAO I - Fax No. 5225 3152.

EXECUTIVES AVAILABLE

INTERNATIONAL MARKETING & SALES PROFESSIONAL

Results oriented American male, 30, educated with good language skills, holding EU papers seek challenging position with excellent advancement and progression potential. Already having a proven track record in success in marketing and market development in a pan-European environment, would appreciate serious replies only. Flexible and willing to travel.

Please fax +32 2 219 1244.

ASIA / EASTERN EUROPE

Marketing manager, Swiss origin, 40, in charge of a large diversified business in West Africa, experienced in left marketing and finance, successful track record in market development in West African countries, English, French, Spanish, looks for a challenge in Asia or Eastern Europe. Position: P.D. or sales manager. Good experience in management or related field, demonstrated potential for effective teaching & advising is an insitute committed to student-centered, experiential learning. Preference given to individuals with significant experience in experiential higher education, work with organizations involved in int'l development, community service, etc. & demonstrated ability to work with a wide range of people from diverse backgrounds. Salary: US\$ 15,000 per year & contribution upon funding. Search open until filled, first screening 2/3/95. Salary dependent upon degree & experience. Send resume & cover letter to: Human Resources, World Learning, P.O. Box 676, Brattleboro, VT 05302-0676 USA. AA/EOE.

Interested parties, please write or fax a detailed resume to:

Recruiting Coordinator, SETPOINT IPCOS, B.V., De Waal 32, 5684 PH BEST The Netherlands

Tel: +31 4998 64444 - fax: +31 4998 97820.

EDUCATIONAL POSITIONS

FACULTY IN INTERNATIONAL & INTERCULTURAL MANAGEMENT

The School for International Training invites applications from individuals with strong teaching & student advising competencies in a broad range of management fields. Candidates must be able to teach foundations of financial management (for non-finance majors, emphasis on nonprofit & public contexts), & either human resource management or strategic management. Advisory responsibilities involve students in all phases (on & off campus) of the program. Requirements: Ph.D. or equivalent, with significant experience in management or related field, demonstrated potential for effective teaching & advising is an insitute committed to student-centered, experiential learning. Preference given to individuals with significant experience in experiential higher education, work with organizations involved in int'l development, community service, etc. & demonstrated ability to work with a wide range of people from diverse backgrounds. Salary: US\$ 15,000 per year & contribution upon funding. Search open until filled, first screening 2/3/95. Salary dependent upon degree & experience. Send resume & cover letter to: Human Resources, World Learning, P.O. Box 676, Brattleboro, VT 05302-0676 USA. AA/EOE.

Interested parties, please write or fax a detailed resume to:

Recruiting Coordinator, SETPOINT IPCOS, B.V., De Waal 32, 5684 PH BEST The Netherlands

Tel: +31 4998 64444 - fax: +31 4998 97820.

Interested parties, please write or fax a detailed resume to:

Recruiting Coordinator, SETPOINT IPCOS, B.V., De Waal 32, 5684 PH BEST The Netherlands

Tel: +31 4998 64444 - fax: +31 4998 97820.

Interested parties, please write or fax a detailed resume to:

Recruiting Coordinator, SETPOINT IPCOS, B.V., De Waal 32, 5684 PH BEST The Netherlands

Tel: +31 4998 64444 - fax: +31 4998 97820.

Interested parties, please write or fax a detailed resume to:

Recruiting Coordinator, SETPOINT IPCOS, B.V., De Waal 32, 5684 PH BEST The Netherlands

Tel: +31 4998 64444 - fax: +31 4998 97820.

Interested parties, please write or fax a detailed resume to:

Recruiting Coordinator, SETPOINT IPCOS, B.V., De Waal 32, 5684 PH BEST The Netherlands

Tel: +31 4998 64444 - fax: +31 4998 97820.

Interested parties, please write or fax a detailed resume to:

Recruiting Coordinator, SETPOINT IPCOS, B.V., De Waal 32, 5684 PH BEST The Netherlands

Tel: +31 4998 64444 - fax: +31 4998 97820.

Interested parties, please write or fax a detailed resume to:

Recruiting Coordinator, SETPOINT IPCOS, B.V., De Waal 32, 5684 PH BEST The Netherlands

Tel: +31 4998 64444 - fax: +31 4998 97820.

Interested parties, please write or fax a detailed resume to:

Recruiting Coordinator, SETPOINT IPCOS, B.V., De Waal 32, 5684 PH BEST The Netherlands

HEALTH / SCIENCE

Long-Term HIV Survivors

Studies Look at Those Who Have Stayed Healthy

By Don Colburn
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — They are the puzzling exceptions to a grim rule. Researchers at the National Institutes of Health and around the United States are studying a tiny group of HIV-infected people who share a startling pair of characteristics.

They have had the AIDS virus a long time. And they haven't gotten sick.

"Long-term AIDS survivor" is a cruelly relative term. Most people infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, take about seven years to develop symptoms and eight or more years to fit a diagnosis of the disease. But even with the best available treatments for AIDS, half the patients die within two years of being diagnosed and few live beyond three.

Yet about 5 percent of HIV-positive individuals — or one in 20 — show a remarkably different pattern. After a decade or more of infection, they appear not only clinically well — without symptoms — but also immunologically well — without the cellular damage that shows up on laboratory tests even before an HIV-positive patient develops obvious signs of AIDS.

Scientists call them long-term nonprogressors — meaning they have the virus but have not progressed to AIDS. "It is astounding that not only are they alive and well, but they show no signs of disease progression," said Anthony S. Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

Three studies of long-term nonprogressors appeared in last week's *New England Journal of Medicine*. One, by researchers at the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center and New York University School of Medicine, looked at 10 people who had no symptoms despite being HIV-positive for 12 to 15 years. They even had normal counts of T cells, the key infection-fighting blood cells targeted by HIV. The patients had relatively low levels of HIV in the blood and showed a combination of a strong immune response and a slightly weakened version of the virus.

A second team, based in Dr. Fauci's lab, also has been scrutinizing a group of long-term nonprogressors from the multicenter AIDS cohort study (MACS), which has followed nearly 5,000 gay men in four cities.

Based on MACS data, Dr. Fauci said, it appears that 5 percent of HIV-infected people may turn out to be long-term nonprogressors. That does not mean they will never get AIDS; it means their immune systems remain apparently intact after 10 or more years of HIV infection.

The NIAID team, led by Giuseppe Pantaleo, reported on 15 of those patients last week. All 15 had been infected for more than seven years — and 13 for more than 10 years — but developed

no symptoms. More surprisingly, their immune systems seem intact, with no measurable damage. They did not take AZT or any other anti-HIV medication.

Researchers looked in particular at the patients' lymph nodes, where HIV usually infests much of its damage to the immune system. In comparing the lymph tissue of the 15 long-term nonprogressors with samples from other HIV-positive patients, they found a striking contrast. "Their lymphoid tissue is intact," Dr. Fauci said. "The virus is there, but in much lower amounts."

The possible explanation is that these individuals were infected by a weak strain of the virus. "We don't think so," Dr. Fauci said, in the patients under study, "we don't have any evidence that we're dealing with a defective virus."

Dr. Fauci emphasized that there is no guarantee these so-far exceptional patients will not eventually succumb to the virus.

But what intrigues scientists is that these patients do not seem to be losing immunological ground to the AIDS virus, even slowly. Most HIV-infected people, even before they get sick with symptoms, show telltale signs in their lymph nodes and blood that the virus is beginning to damage the immune system. Their T-cell counts start to fall long before they are diagnosed with AIDS.

The patients being studied by Dr. Fauci's team have T-cell counts in the normal range, as well as healthy lymph tissue.

The NIAID and the New York studies show a small group of patients whose immune systems fight off HIV longer and more effectively than usual. Unfortunately, the reasons are unclear.

In a third study in last week's journal, a team from the New England Primate Research Center, the University of Massachusetts and Harvard reported on one long-term HIV survivor, a 44-year-old man with hemophilia who was infected by contaminated blood transfusions sometime before 1983. The man's virus contained a defective gene known as nef.

RESEARCHERS hope that a defective form of the virus might become the basis of a vaccine against deadlier versions.

It's not surprising that some individuals get sick faster than others from HIV infection. AIDS has always been a widely variable illness. But until recently the variation was assumed to be a matter of degree, with all HIV-infected people moving — gradually or rapidly — toward a diagnosis of AIDS.

"If two or three years ago, you had told me we'd find people who are not only clinically well but also immunologically well, I would have had a hard time believing you," said Lewis K. Schrager, an NIAID investigator who directs the MACS program, a grand unified theory of mathematics

and what he pulled off, was a miraculous save with just the right collaborator.

On a mathematical level, Fermat's last theorem turns out to have extraordinarily deep roots, despite its apparent simplicity. The theorem is a special case of an overarching mathematical idea known as the Taniyama conjecture, which is itself a giant step toward the goal of what is known as the Langlands program, a grand unified theory of mathematics

Proving Fermat's theorem showed

how the even more daunting Taniyama conjecture might be tackled and now, with Dr. Wiles's proof in hand, one of his former students, Dr. Fred Diamond of Cambridge University in England has already made considerable progress on a Taniyama proof that until recently had seemed unassailable.

Fermat's last theorem dates from 1637. The French mathematician and physicist Pierre de Fermat had scribbled it in the margins of a book, adding that he had discovered a marvelous proof but that the margins were too small to hold it.

The theorem says that equations of the form $x^n + y^n = z^n$ (to the nth power) have no solutions when n is a whole number greater than 2 and when x , y and z are positive whole numbers. When n equals 2, the equation is the familiar Pythagorean equation, which says that the squares of the lengths of two sides of a right triangle equal the square of the length of its hypotenuse. One solution is $3^2 + 4^2 = 5^2$ (to the 2d power) plus 4 (to the 2d power) equals 5 (to the 2d power).

Dr. Wiles, 41, had been fascinated with the challenge of the theorem since he was a child. Indeed it was Fermat's last theorem that drew him into mathematics. But he did not begin working on his proof until eight years ago, secluded in his attic office and telling just a few trusted friends what he was doing. Finally, he convinced himself that the work was done and he announced it in a series of three lectures at a mathematics meeting in Cambridge, England. Only at the end of the third lecture, on June 24,

1993, came the stunning announcement — Fermat's last theorem was proved.

Leading researchers immediately hailed Dr. Wiles's achievement. Built on a body of sophisticated mathematics that had been developed in recent years, his proof made so much sense that they confidently predicted that it would hold up to scrutiny.

Dr. Wiles, cautious and a bit nervous, decided not to circulate copies of his manuscript widely among mathematicians but instead to wait until a select few experts who were reviewing it prior to publication proclaimed it sound.

Writing a complex proof, he said, "is like writing in a foreign language — you are bound to make a few grammatical errors." If there were any faults, as often happens with complicated proofs, he wanted to fix them himself rather than share the glory.

"It's a very competitive environment," Dr. Wiles explained, and, after working for seven years and after getting so close, he wanted the victory to be his alone.

SEVERAL minor faults were found and Dr. Wiles fixed them. But then, in the fall of 1993, a reviewer asked him to justify an assertion in the midst of his proof, that a certain estimate was correct. The gap at first seemed to be of minor importance. But although the estimate seemed, intuitively, to be correct, proving it was a different matter.

Dr. Wiles thought carefully about whom he would ask to join him on the proof. "I wanted someone I was sure

of," he explained. So he called Dr. Richard Taylor, 32, a former student who is now a reader, a tenured position, at Cambridge University.

The two began collaborating furiously and, two and a half weeks later, they had written a paper whose authors are, in order, Dr. Wiles and Dr. Taylor, that filled in the gap of the proof.

The credit for solving Fermat's last theorem seems likely to go largely to Dr. Wiles, since he is the sole author of the major paper on the proof, and since it was his ideas that bridged the gap.

Although Dr. Taylor evidently played an important supporting role, he says that he agrees with Dr. Wiles's account of their collaboration. Dr. Diamond carefully describes the proof as "the theorem of Wiles, completed by Taylor and Wiles." Dr. Wiles said he agreed with this description.

Before Dr. Wiles was willing to announce that he and Dr. Taylor had filled the gap, he asked a few leading experts to check his argument. One was Dr. Gerd Faltings, a mathematician at the Max Planck Institute in Bonn, who said he read it in a week and was convinced it was correct. Now, Dr. Faltings has improved the proof, making it sleeker and easier to follow. Still, he said, most mathematicians who are expert enough in the field to read the proof will probably require a month to go through it.

Now, mathematicians said, the final proof of the elusive Taniyama conjecture is in sight. "If I had to guess, I would say it is at least a few months and at most a few years," Dr. Diamond said.

Key to Missing Matter?

By John Noble Wilford
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Particles so slight they were long thought to have no mass at all may be some of the most consequential matter in the universe, probably much more abundant and substantial than all the ordinary matter in planets, stars and galaxies.

In experiments aimed at answering one of the most intriguing questions in particle physics and cosmology, scientists at Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico have produced strong evidence that these elusive particles, called neutrinos, do indeed have mass. This means that neutrinos could constitute a major component of the mysterious invisible matter, the long-sought missing mass, that cosmologists think fills and shapes the universe, and could dictate its fate.

Dr. D. Hywel White, leader of the research team, said in an

interview that "the most likely explanation" for the observed behavior of neutrinos produced by a proton accelerator was that these particles have some as yet undetermined amount of mass.

The neutrino mass, he said, must be greater than one-half of an electron-volt, the minimum of the detectors' sensitivity, and perhaps no more than five electron-volts. By comparison, the mass of a single electron, a constituent of atoms that is the next lightest particle with mass, measures more than 500,000 electron-volts. An electron-volt, a measure of energy as equivalent to mass, is one one-billionth the mass of the proton, a fundamental particle of ordinary matter.

But some astrophysicists were more cautious, mindful of other reports in recent years of evidence for neutrino mass that proved to be wrong.

"We are being careful because we feel we have a high burden of proof," Dr. White said, acknowledging these concerns. "But we believe we are right and won't have anything to regret later."

The observations have been repeated in two long experimental runs, totaling five months, and carefully analyzed to rule out possibly false or misleading signals, Los Alamos scientists said. The increased number of observed events in the second run, completed in No-

vember, gave the scientists greater confidence that they were in fact seeing the effects of neutrinos with mass.

"That's why we are now ready to talk about this publicly," said Dr. William C. Louis, a member of the project.

The findings are to be described at a scientific meeting in Los Alamos this week and in a formal report being prepared for publication in the journal *Physical Review Letters*.

Scientists familiar with the research expressed confidence in the interpretation that the experiments had detected the mass of neutrinos.

But some astrophysicists



This is the device built to find evidence of neutrinos.

Dr. White and Dr. Louis said further experiments and tests would be necessary to establish the results beyond any reasonable doubt and to pin down the precise masses. At least two more years of work is planned at Los Alamos. Other tests are to be conducted at Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory in Batavia, Illinois, and at CERN, the European particle physics laboratory near Geneva.

If the results are verified, Dr. Joel Primack, a theoretical astrophysicist at the University of California at Santa Cruz, said, "this is a very big discovery."

He explained: "It's the golden evidence for neutrino mass. It's the discovery of more matter in the universe than we've known up to now."

The new research, Dr. Primack said, could mean that massive neutrinos could account for 10 percent to 20 percent of the theorized mass density of the universe.

Combined, they have more than 30 million subscribers. The anonymity of communicating this way makes it possible for people to provide false information with little fear of the consequences that might occur if they offered erroneous advice in a newspaper or magazine, or on radio or television. It is difficult to sort out fact from hype.

My interest in these postings was aroused by a letter asking me to look into a rumor involving Neiman Marcus, the Texas-based retail chain.

An old story about one of its stores has popped up again in cyberspace. According to the posting, someone had requested a recipe from Neiman Marcus

Junk Diet in Cyberspace

By Marian Burros
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — It's Dodge City in cyberspace. Myth and rumor fly as fast as bullets, and the sheriff is nowhere in sight. Much misinformation is not shot down. Some of it is harmless, but a lot is dangerous to health and well-being.

There are very few restrictions on the kinds of information that appear on the bulletin boards or in the forums of the three commercial on-line services — America Online, CompuServe and Prodigy — or on the Internet.

Combined, they have more than 30 million subscribers. The anonymity of communicating this way makes it possible for people to provide false information with little fear of the consequences that might occur if they offered erroneous advice in a newspaper or magazine, or on radio or television. It is difficult to sort out fact from hype.

My interest in these postings was aroused by a letter asking me to look into a rumor involving Neiman Marcus, the Texas-based retail chain.

An old story about one of its stores has popped up again in cyberspace. According to the posting, someone had requested a recipe from Neiman Marcus

and the store had sent the recipe along with a credit-card charge of \$2,500. Other on-line users chimed in with reports of similar experiences, all secondhand.

Over several days, I spent more than five hours surfing on the three commercial services following health-related chats. I found equally bogus claims and questionable practices. One chatter requested advice on dissolving cataracts.

Although the on-line services say they monitor their forums for vulgar language, illegal activity and harassment, they say they are not otherwise responsible for content.

French Sperm Bank Has Drop in Quality

Reuters

BOSTON — Sperm quality at a Paris sperm bank has been declining for 20 years, French scientists have found.

The researchers found no decline in the amount of semen produced by the 1,351 men donating to the sperm bank at the Groupe Hospitalier Cochin in Paris. But the sperm concentration in 1973 was 89 million per milliliter of semen, compared with 60 million in 1992, according to an article published Thursday in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

Another recommended a regimen of flaxseed oil and cottage cheese to cure lung cancer and a treatment of distilled water for arteriosclerosis.

Over several days, I spent more than five hours surfing on the three commercial services following health-related chats. I found equally bogus claims and questionable practices. One chatter requested advice on dissolving cataracts.

Although the on-line services say they monitor their forums for vulgar language, illegal activity and harassment, they say they are not otherwise responsible for content.

S

IWA OASIS, Egypt — Archaeologists searching in Egypt for the tomb of Alexander the Great said Wednesday that they had uncovered an underground passage leading to what they believe is his final resting place.

But they announced a one-month break from their excavations, leaving historians in suspense as to whether they really have found the burial site of the Macedonian king.

Liana Souvaltz, the head of the Greek team exploring the sprawling oasis of Siwa in Egypt's western desert, said she hoped they would get back to work again at the end of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan. She showed visitors to the site, at El Maraqi, about 15 kilometers (10 miles) west of Siwa town, a concealed crypt leading from the entrance of the smaller of two excavated buildings.

A passageway, impenetrable until it is cleared of mud and water, leads to the actual burial chamber, she said. She said the larger building, with a long corridor leading to two antechambers and a "burial chamber," was an elaborate decoy designed to mislead potential grave robbers.

Until now, most historians have believed Alexander's grave was somewhere in Alexandria, the Egyptian port city that he founded. El Maraqi, surrounded by eerie-looking pink outcrops of rock, lies on the outer edge of the oasis where Alexander was proclaimed a god in 323 B.C., just before he launched a successful campaign against King Darius of Persia.

Dr. Souvaltz said there was overwhelming evidence for her view, including stone tablets her team uncovered that appear to show that Alexander's deputy, Ptolemy I, carried his mummified body back to El Maraqi after his death. She said that the site had typical Macedonian designs, such as oak-leaf insignia at the top of columns and that Alexander had requested that he be buried there.

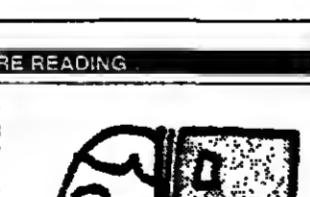
BOOKS

A DEATH IN JERUSALEM
By Kati Marton. 321 pages. \$25. Pantheon.Reviewed by
Jonathan Groner

LONG before Baruch Goldstein, the Jewish settler who killed 29 Muslims last February as they prayed in the Tomb of the Patriarchs, there was Lehi. Known to history as the Stern Gang, a derisive term devised by its British enemies, Lehi flourished for just a decade (1940-49) as the most extreme manifestation of Jewish nationalism in the desperate years before and immediately after Israel became independent.

Lehi's membership never exceeded a few hundred; its organizer, Avraham Stern, was killed by British soldiers in 1942, less than two years after the group's founding; and its ideology of blood and terror was repudiated by David Ben-Gurion and virtually all of the Zionist movement. Yet Lehi, like other ultra groups on both sides of the Arab-Israeli conflict, had its impact on the history and the mythology of the Middle East. Even in the 1990s, its ideology needs to be understood — if for no other reason than that Yitzhak Shamir, the former Israeli prime minister, was a member of its inner circle.

There is no better way to examine Lehi than through its most notorious act on the world stage, the assassination in September 1948 of Count Folke



WHAT THEY'RE READING

MARKET DIARY

Cyclical Issues Help Dow Creep Higher

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — Stocks rose slightly Wednesday despite a fall in the bond market that followed a long-awaited credit tightening by the Federal Reserve.

Economically sensitive stocks, which tend to fall when interest rates rise, led the market higher.

U.S. Stocks

Analysts said these issues gained because investors concluded from the Fed statement that the central bank was finished raising rates for a while, and that there was still some room for the economy to expand in this cycle.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed 3.70 points higher at 3,847.56. Advancing issues outnumbered decliners by 4-to-3 margin.

Boeing, International Business Machines, Aluminum Company of America and International Paper led the rise in the Dow.

The bond market fell immediately after the Fed announced the half-point rise in short-term

interest rates. The price of the benchmark 30-year Treasury bond fell 17/32 to 97 5/32, causing its yield to rise to 7.74 percent from 7.69 percent.

Commercial banks responded to rate rise by raising their prime rate, the rate they charge their best customers, to 9 percent from 8.5 percent.

Despite the market's overall rise, the American depositary receipts representing shares in Mexican companies fell, giving back strong gains they posted Tuesday after President Bill Clinton announced a new aid package for Mexico. *Telefonos de Mexico* fell 1/4 to 34¢.

Automobile stocks were mixed after Ford Motor announced record earnings for 1994. Ford fell 1/4 to 25¢, while General Motors rose 3/4 to 39¢ and Chrysler rose 1/4 to 45¢.

Traders said the prospects of higher borrowing costs for car buyers following the rate increase dampened enthusiasm over record 1994 earnings for the Big Three automakers.

(AP, Bloomberg)

U.S. Rate Increase Fails To Support the Dollar

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — The dollar fell against most other major currencies Wednesday after Federal Reserve Board policymakers raised interest rates by half a percentage point, a move traders generally had expected.

"It was a case of buy the rumor, sell the news, and the

Foreign Exchange

Deutsche marks, down from 1,524.3 DM on Tuesday, though it managed to rise to 99.200 yen from 99.625 yen.

The drop followed a dollar surge Tuesday after President Bill Clinton announced an international rescue plan to stabilize Mexico's battered financial markets.

"The most important factor for the dollar is Mexico," Mr. Egan said. "The progress of the rescue package is key."

The dollar also weakened against other major currencies, falling to 2,620 French francs from 2,583 francs and falling to 1,284 Swiss francs from 1,285 francs.

The pound rose to \$1.5828 from \$1.5800.

"Most people were counting on an interest-rate story to take the dollar higher, but now people are looking ahead and realizing that the Fed is near the end of its tightening cycle," said David Gilmore, partner at Foreign Exchange Analytics.

Varick Martin, foreign exchange manager at Manufacturers' & Traders Trust, said: "I'm truly surprised the dollar hasn't risen. This could be an aberrational movement, I find it hard to believe that after today and yesterday, we would see anything but a strong dollar."

(Bloomberg, Reuters)

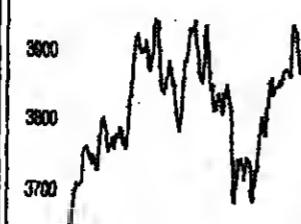
Via Associated Press

Feb. 1

The Dow

Daily closings of the Dow Jones industrial average

400



JASON D J

1994 1995

INT'L

Dow Jones Averages

Open High Low Last Chg.

Index 3500.15 3548.46 3501.41 3561.54 +.37

Trans. 1499.31 1523.77 1492.74 1495.44 +.02

Comp. 1324.64 1342.21 1321.12 1377.23 +.03

S&P 500 1030.64 1042.21 1021.12 1077.23 +.03

Nikkei 2250.00 2250.00 2250.00 2250.00 +.00

Euro 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Forward 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Last 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Settle 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

CBOE 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Forward 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Last 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Settle 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

CBOE 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Forward 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Last 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Settle 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

CBOE 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Forward 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Last 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Settle 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

CBOE 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Forward 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Last 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Settle 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

CBOE 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Forward 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Last 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Settle 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

CBOE 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Forward 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Last 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Settle 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

CBOE 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Forward 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Last 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Settle 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

CBOE 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Forward 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Last 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Settle 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

CBOE 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Forward 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Last 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Settle 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

CBOE 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Forward 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Last 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Settle 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

CBOE 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Forward 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Last 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Settle 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

CBOE 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Forward 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Last 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Settle 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

CBOE 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Forward 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Last 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Settle 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

CBOE 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Forward 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Last 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Settle 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

CBOE 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Forward 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Last 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Settle 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

CBOE 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Forward 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Last 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Settle 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

CBOE 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Forward 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Last 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Settle 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

CBOE 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Forward 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Last 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Settle 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

CBOE 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Forward 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 1174.00 +.00

Last 1174.00 1174.

Total SA: Ready for Baghdad

French Oil Firm Is Willing to Sign Iraq Deal

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — The chairman of Total SA, Serge Tchuruk, said Wednesday that the French oil company would sign an agreement with Iraq, as long as it was applied once UN sanctions were lifted.

"If we had the chance to sign an agreement with Iraq before sanctions are lifted, on the understanding that the deal would be implemented after the embargo is lifted, we would sign," he said.

The Total chairman confirmed reports that the company was continuing discussions with Iraqi authorities, as are other world oil companies, but nothing has been signed.

Total also announced that 1994 net income rose 13 percent because of reduced operating costs, increased oil flows and improved chemical profits.

Net profit rose to 3.4 billion French francs (\$654 million) from 3.0 billion in 1993.

Total improved profits even as refining margins shrank, the

dollar was weak and crude oil prices, which have been rising in recent months, were 7 percent lower on average last year than in 1993.

Operating profit rose to 6.9 billion francs from 6.8 billion francs in 1993, which included an 800 million loss from its reduction in the value of its petroleum assets.

Of the 1994 improvement in operating profit, 1.2 billion francs were related to reduced operating costs and a rise in earnings from higher oil and natural gas production.

Mr. Tchuruk said Iraq's return to the world oil market would not flood the market disastrously because its return had largely been anticipated.

Oil prices would probably react, but the reaction was likely to be short-lived, he said.

Mr. Tchuruk said he hoped crude prices would recover as economic growth in industrialized nations and in Asia gathers steam, boosting demand for oil.

to fuel power plants and automobiles.

Mr. Tchuruk said the possible resumption of Iraq's oil exports once international sanctions were lifted could paradoxically boost prices.

"What markets hate most is uncertainty, and that's what's weighing prices down," he said.

Iraq was barred from exporting oil after it failed to annex Kuwait in the early 1990s.

(Bloomberg, AFX, AFP)

■ Petrofina Net Jumps 45%

Petrofina SA, Belgium's biggest industrial company, said net profit rose 45 percent in 1994 because of rising chemical prices and revenue from the sale of assets, Bloomberg Business News reported.

The oil and chemical company said net consolidated profit rose to 10.3 billion Belgian francs (\$328 million) from 7.1 billion francs in 1993. Earnings for 1994 included 2 billion francs in gains on asset sales.

S&P Turns 'Negative' On Italy Foreign Debt

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

MILAN — Standard & Poor's, the credit rating agency, on Wednesday revised its opinion of Italy's foreign debt from "stable" to "negative," saying it feared the country's leaders were incapable of effective action on the budget deficit.

The lira fell slightly against the Deutsche mark and Italian bond futures reversed earlier gains on the news, which came as Prime Minister Lamberto Dini was being confirmed in office by Parliament.

Analysts said the move by Standard & Poor's could be a step toward reducing its rating on Italy's long-term debt of 128 trillion lire (\$80 billion), which could then increase the cost of future borrowing.

The agency said its negative outlook "reflects the increasing risk that Italy's weak political leadership will fail to address the country's growing, serious fiscal and political problems during this and the next several years."

However, Standard & Poor's said it would not change its AA rating on Italy's long-term foreign debt and the A1 rating on Italy's short-term debt.

Italy is the only member of the Group of Seven leading industrial nations not to receive the agency's top AAA debt rating.

Mr. Dini, who on Wednesday won his second and final vote of confidence in the Senate, or upper house of Parliament, has no clear majority in Parliament.

(Reuters, Knight-Ridder, AFX)

Recovery In Germany To Quicken

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BONN — Economics Minister Günter Rexrodt predicted Wednesday that the German economic recovery would gain speed in 1995 but urged unions and industry to reach wage agreements that promote growth and secure jobs.

"Now is the time to set the stage for leading the economic recovery into lasting economic growth and employment," he said.

In the government's annual economic outlook, Mr. Rexrodt forecast that Germany's gross domestic product would grow 3 percent this year, up from 2.8 percent in 1994, and create 300,000 jobs.

Western German GDP would grow 2.5 percent, up from 2.3 percent, while East German growth would "approach 10 percent," up from 8.9 percent, he said.

Separately, the Economics Ministry said West German industrial output in December rose 7.3 percent from a year earlier, compared with 6.2 percent growth shown in November.

German industry had clearly become more competitive, and unit labor costs had dropped sharply, but deep structural problems must still be resolved to guarantee lasting growth, Mr. Rexrodt said.

In particular, he said he would combat high long-term structural unemployment, lagging modernization in certain industries and high taxation of industry and consumers.

■ Degussa's Profit Rises

Degussa AG, a German chemicals and metals company, reported a 55 percent rise in first-quarter profit, to 94 million DM, news agencies reported from Frankfurt.

Degussa also predicted the rising trend would continue as cost-cutting pays off and demand for chemicals rises. Sales rose 11 percent, to 3.67 billion DM.

Meanwhile, ASKO Deutsche Kaufhaus AG, a German retailer, said profit for the year to September 1994 fell a larger-than-expected 16 percent, to 361 million DM.

(Reuters, Knight-Ridder, AFX)

Investor's Europe

Frankfurt	London	Paris
DAX	FTSE 100 Index	CAC 40
2300	3300	2100
2200	3200	2000
2100	3100	1900
2000	3000	1800
1900	2900	1700
S O N O J F	S O N O J F	S O N O J F
1994 1995 1994 1995 1994 1995	1994 1995 1994 1995 1994 1995	1994 1995 1994 1995 1994 1995
Exchange	Index	Wednesday
		Prev.
		Close
		% Change
Amsterdam	AEX	410.36 408.11 +0.85
Brussels	Stock Index	7,077.32 7,046.85 +0.43
Frankfurt	DAX	2,048.43 2,021.27 +1.34
Frankfurt	FAZ	765.54 756.53 +1.19
Helsinki	HEX	1,827.51 1,809.66 +0.99
London	Financial Times 30	2,288.60 2,261.30 +1.21
London	FTSE 100	3,017.30 2,991.80 +0.86
Madrid	General Index	283.98 278.51 +1.60
Milan	MIBTEL	1076.2 1062.5 +1.29
Paris	CAC 40	1,827.78 1,797.90 +1.66
Stockholm	SX 16	1,594.98 1,572.00 +1.40
Vienna	ATX Index	986.10 993.27 -0.72
Zurich	SBS	903.26 894.88 +0.94

Sources: Reuters, AFP

International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

• The European Commission will decide in the next few weeks whether to put anti-dumping duties on imports from the United States of soda ash, an important component of glass-making.

• Bulgaria, Romania and the Czech and Slovak republics forged closer links with the European Union through cooperation agreements on trade, education, culture, finance and political dialogue.

• Degussa AG, the German chemical and metals group, said it believed higher prices for silver and other precious metals would be supported by increased demand in the long term.

• Smith New Court Ltd., a British stockbroker, said it had a 51 percent stake in ITT Investas, an Indian stockbroker, and a 30 percent stake in International Securities Ltd., a brokerage concern in Pakistan.

• Spain's Ministry of Finance said revenues in December fell 16.5 percent, to 1.12 trillion pesetas (\$8.5 billion). From the same month of 1993 because of a drop in tax receipts.

• Banco Espanol de Credito, the Spanish bank that is now a unit of Banco de Santander, slashed 1994 losses to 16.88 billion pesetas from a loss of 584.62 billion pesetas in 1993.

• Thomson Consumer Electronics SA has been renamed Thomson Multimedia and will absorb the Thomson Broadband Systems telecommunications and imaging unit of Thomson-CSF.

• The European Union's trade deficit fell to 3.04 billion European Currency Units (\$2.4 billion) in the first six months of 1994 from 9.3 billion Ecuas a year earlier.

• Norway's oil industry plans to cut exploration, development and operating costs at its offshore oilfields by 40 percent to 50 percent by 1998 for an estimated savings of 17 billion kroner (\$2.6 billion).

• Britain's Shepperton film studios have been sold for £1.2 million (\$19 million) to a group of investors led by two British film directors, Ridley and Tony Scott, who are brothers.

• Sandoz Ltd., the Swiss drug and chemicals company, denied it had been approached by Wellcome PLC of Britain as a possible friendly bidder to top a £9 billion (\$14 billion) hostile bid by Britain's Glaxo PLC.

Reuters, AP, AFP, AFX

Rhône's U.S. Arm Posts Rebound In 4th-Period Net

Bloomberg Business News

PARIS — Rhône-Poulenc Rorer Inc., in a year-end rebound, posted a better-than-expected 31 percent rise in fourth-quarter profit Wednesday and said it expected to grow faster than the overall drug industry in 1995.

The fourth-quarter growth spurt still left Rorer, the maker of such drugs as Dilacor XR for blood pressure treatment, with an 18 percent decline in profit for 1994.

"1994 was a blip, really," said Susan Haylock, an analyst with NatWest Securities Ltd. in London. The latest quarter's profits were "better than our forecast" and bode well for 1995, she said.

Signaling a late-year rebound in its global markets, the 68.34 percent-owned North American arm of France's Rhône-Poulenc SA said fourth-quarter net profit rose to \$163 million, or \$1.22 a share, from \$124 million, or 90 cents a share, a year earlier.

EU Rules Seek to Ensure Quality Phone Service

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BRUSSELS — The European Commission proposed rules on Wednesday to ensure that telephone users across Europe have access to high-quality service, covering itemized billing to pay-phone booths.

The European Union executive body said strict guarantees for consumers were needed as the EU throws open its telecommunications markets to competition in 1998.

have illegally used some votes to get its reorganization plan approved, the bank ought to withdraw the arrangement.

Kurt Schiltzkecht, managing director of BK Vision, said that after the publicity about possible misconduct and the court ruling that upheld them, UBS should simply bow out of the battle.

Gertrud Eisemann, a spokeswoman for the bank, said it was "consensus" for BK Vision to call on UBS to repeal the share-

holders' vote. "The board has no possibility to do this when two-thirds of all votes approved the plan," she said. UBS plans to appeal the judge's ruling, she said.

The district judge had responded to a complaint filed by Peter Hafer, a BK Vision director and UBS shareholder, who had asked the court to block the implementation of the share plan so he could challenge its legality.

(Bloomberg, AFX)

UBS Loses Round but Won't Surrender to BK Vision

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

ZURICH — Union Bank of Switzerland's biggest shareholder called on the bank Wednesday to give up its stock-reorganization plan, but UBS refused to abandon its program, despite losing a court ruling.

BK Vision AG, a Swiss holding company that invests in the financial-services industry, said that after a Swiss judge

ruled that UBS had violated Swiss securities laws, UBS had to withdraw its plan.

UBS' chairman and CEO, Kurt Schiltzkecht, said that after the publicity about possible misconduct and the court ruling that upheld them, UBS should simply bow out of the battle.

Gertrud Eisemann, a spokeswoman for the bank, said it was "consensus" for BK Vision to call on UBS to repeal the share-

Consumer Group Reopens Unilever Soap Controversy

Bloomberg Business News

LONDON — Lever Brothers Ltd., the detergent subsidiary of Unilever Group, dismissed on Tuesday claims by the British Consumers' Association that the original Persil Power laundry detergent and a reformulated version damage clothes.

The claims, based on a battery of tests, will be published in the association's magazine, "Which?," on Thursday. The article is expected to say that while the reformulated brand of Persil Power does less damage to color clothes, it still fades some fabrics and weakens the material.

The controversial detergent, which is called Omo Power in the rest of Europe, used manganese compounds to accelerate the effects of bleaches used in detergents. Last summer the product caused a media and legal wrangle when Procter & Gamble Co. claimed it literally ate holes in clothes. Unilever sued in the Netherlands, and the two companies settled out of court.

The original Persil Power detergent was introduced last April and was replaced in June by a reformulated product that uses less manganese.

Lever Brothers argued that the magazine did not follow washing directions on the back of packages for Persil Power.

BAILOUT: Help for Speculators

Continued from Page 9
from the central banks who belong to the Bank for International Settlements, and \$3 billion from leading commercial banks.

The knowledge that Mexico has access to such a huge line of credit is expected to reassure foreign investors that cash is available to redeem its short-term debt as it matures. In turn, that should encourage these creditors to reinvest their money and thereby halt the hemorrhage of foreign-exchange reserves, making it unnecessary for Mexico to draw on the bulk of the promised loans.

"We are in a new world," according to Mr. de Vries. Since the Latin American debt crisis in 1982, commercial banks have had little appetite to lend to developing countries. Portfolio investors, on the other hand, have invested huge amounts estimated at nearly \$155 billion over the past two years — in emerging stock and bond markets.

A better recognition of the risks involved, Mr. de Vries adds, would have a salutary effect on the market recently seen in those markets.

Willem Buiter of Cambridge University is even more critical. He denounced the bail out as "a gift from the taxpayers to the rich."

"This is not a great incentive for efficient operations of financial markets, because people do not have to weigh carefully risk against return," Mr. Buiter said. "They're given a one-way bet, with the U.S. Treasury and the international

in 1994, the enthusiasm for the concept of investing in such countries remained high.

Barton M. Biggs, the international strategist for Morgan Stanley Group, said: "I think we are very close to the end of the cyclical bear market."

Tokyo Considers Increasing Taxes To Rebuild Kobe

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — Japan's chief cabinet secretary suggested Wednesday that the government would consider tax increases and other measures to repair the damage caused by the earthquake that devastated Kobe on Jan. 17.

"Prime Minister Murayama and Finance Minister Takehara are saying that we should consider various options for revenue resources," Kozo Igashira said. "Overall, huge expenditures are expected."

Asked whether tax increases were possible, Mr. Igashira said "every measure" would be explored.

Reconstruction costs have been estimated at between \$80 billion and \$130 billion. But statements from several politicians indicated the government still had not decided on a strategy for helping to pay the bill.

Japan Regrets U.S. Ruling on Steel Dumping

The Associated Press

TOKYO — Japan expressed regret Wednesday over a U.S. ruling that Japanese companies are dumping steel products on the American market.

The ruling that Japanese stainless steel bars were being sold at less than fair value was "regrettable," because those products were likely to be shut out of the U.S. market, said Shigeo Itsubata of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry.

The U.S. International Trade Commission ruled Tuesday that stainless steel bars from Brazil, India and Japan violated anti-dumping rules. The U.S. Commerce Department will now order duties imposed on the imports.

Mr. Itsubata said the punitive tariffs on the Japanese products were expected to exceed 60 percent, as the U.S. Commerce Department had said the dumping margin, or reduction below fair value, on those products was 61.47 percent.

Dairy Farm Restocks Its Shelves

Hong Kong Food Retailer Seeking Niche Expansion

By Kevin Murphy
International Herald Tribune

HONG KONG — Dairy Farm International Holdings Ltd., the largest food retailer in Asia outside Japan, is hearing complaints from both sides.

Prices for milk and everything else in its many stores have soared, say inflation-weary Hong Kong consumers. And investors are finding the company's sagging short-term growth prospects unpalatable.

But Graeme Seabrook, the Australian drafted into the company's top job 18 months ago, is urging investors to think about the company as its parent, the Jardine Matheson group, does — as a solid long-term play.

"If you look at the positioning of the company and understand where we are putting our money and what we are doing with it, then you've got to agree it's good for the long term," Mr. Seabrook said in a recent interview.

"If you want something that is going to flare up, then fall down again as quickly, don't invest in Dairy Farm," he said.

Disappointing half-year results reported in September — pretax profit was up 5.9 percent from a year earlier, at \$107.8 million — dragged the share price down along with most other local stocks.

Then a decision to follow parent Jardine Strategic Holdings Ltd. and other Jardine Matheson companies in leaving the Hong Kong Stock Exchange to list in Singapore hurt sentiment as well.

In the past year, Dairy Farm shares have fallen from about 14 Hong Kong dollars (\$1.81) to a latest close of 9.40 dollars, rebounding from a low of about 8 dollars on Jan. 3.

Analysts say the recent rally owes more to the company's listing in Singapore, where average price/earnings ratios are higher than in Hong Kong, than to a genuine turnaround in the company.

More lasting gains, they say, will depend on Mr. Seabrook's ability to convince investors that fast growth in new but relatively small markets will, over time, compensate for leaner days in long-established businesses.

"Pressure on margins at nearly every major operating unit is our primary concern with Dairy Farm," a Lehman Brothers analyst, Mun Chan, said in a

recent report. He said earnings growth would slip to about 8 percent over the next three years, which is relatively low for Asia, and that "there's no real end in sight" to the slowdown.

But with roughly \$10 billion in sales in food retailing, manufacturing and wholesaling operations reaching from Scotland and Spain to New Zealand and several high-growth Asian markets, Dairy Farm is well diversified geographically.

It owns fast-food and convenience store chains such as 7-Eleven in Hong

The company hopes rapid growth in new, relatively small markets eventually will make up for leaner times elsewhere.

Kong and various kinds of retail food stores throughout southern China, Singapore, Taiwan and Malaysia.

The company is also examining Thailand and Indonesia for further expansion, which would probably be handled through its Singapore-based Cold Storage Holdings, acquired in 1993.

In the meantime, however, Dairy Farm's earnings base still depends heavily on mature markets where competition is increasingly intense.

Earnings before tax and interest at the company's Franklin discount grocery store chain in Australia and its 29 percent-owned associate Kwik Save Group PLC in Britain combined with core Hong Kong businesses to contribute 88 percent of group earnings or \$270 million, in 1993.

A Salomon Brothers analyst, Kent Chan, said he expected that proportion to fall to 85 percent by the end of this year. Dairy Farm investors will be waiting a while for new operations in Asia to turn the region's strong economic growth into bottom-line gains for the company.

"We've said we'd have a few years with growth flatter than people had got-

ten used to," Mr. Seabrook said. "A number of our businesses had come to a mature phase at the same time. We're trying to get them moving again, and it does cost a lot."

In Australia, Franklins has made an expensive push into selling fresh foods to enhance its offerings in a fast-changing retail grocery environment.

In Hong Kong, higher rents and labor costs have made it difficult to maintain once fat margins.

And in Shanghai, where the group sought to open as many as 60 stores with a Chinese partner, negotiations have ended without a deal after months of talks. Analysts blame the rocky relationship between Beijing and Jardine Matheson, still Hong Kong's most British trading house, for the impasse.

But in Taiwan, Dairy Farm's Wellcome supermarkets turned a profit in 1993 for the first time in five years of operation. Analysts expect further improvements as major investments in distribution systems and more stores begin to pay off.

Cold Storage in Singapore is growing steadily in a relatively small market and expanding into the Malaysian supermarket business, where changing lifestyles engender growth for packaged goods and processed foods.

Moreover, the boomtown of Shenzhen in southern China now boasts 20 7-Eleven stores. An agreement to establish grocery stores in teeming Guangzhou is "close," according to Mr. Seabrook. And an ice cream and dairy products manufacturing joint venture with Nestle SA, the Swiss food company, has several factories in China and more under negotiation.

The key to extracting the most from this far-flung empire, according to Mr. Seabrook, is strengthening regional management teams and looking for good ideas in individual markets that will travel well to other parts of the group.

"We are now looking for greater synergies than we had in the past, to try and get the guys together and to get people moving around," said Mr. Seabrook. "It's still in the embryonic stages, but it will be a major strength of the company for the longer term."

Investor's Asia

Hong Kong: Hang Seng		Singapore: Straits Times		Tokyo: Nikkei 225	
10000A	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000
10000A	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000
6000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000
S O N D J F	1994	S O N D J F	1994	S O N D J F	1994
1994	1995	1994	1995	1994	1995
Exchange	Index	Wednesday	Prev.	Close	% Change
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	Closed	7,342.65	-	-
Singapore	Straits Times	Closed	2,063.36	-	-
Sydney	All Ordinaries	1,833.10	1,830.60	+0.14	-
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	18,739.47	18,649.82	+0.48	-
Kuala Lumpur	Composite	Closed	883.29	-	-
Bangkok	SET	1,238.53	1,217.74	+1.71	-
Seoul	Composite Stock	Closed	925.56	-	-
Taipei	Weighted Price	Closed	6,307.85	-	-
Manila	PSE	2,476.89	2,420.12	+2.35	-
Jakarta	Stock Index	434.65	433.83	+0.18	-
New Zealand	NZSE-40	1,867.05	1,839.82	+0.88	-
Bombay	National Index	1,733.14	1,737.91	-0.27	-

Sources: Reuters, AFP

International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

- NEC Corp. will offer a service beginning Feb. 22 that it said would allow Japanese companies to connect easily to Internet, the global information network.
- Japanese financial institutions sold off 131.3 billion yen (\$1.3 billion) in nonperforming loans in January, bringing sales since March 1993 to 7.05 trillion yen.
- Japan's domestic vehicle sales rose 5.1 percent in January from a year earlier, their eighth consecutive monthly gain.
- Wacoal Corp. of Japan set up a third subsidiary in China to manufacture women's undergarments for the local market and for export to Japan.
- British's Scotch whisky makers threatened to bring Japan before the World Trade Organization if Japan did not reduce taxes on imported liquor.
- Japan had a 5.1 percent increase in construction orders in December from a year earlier, the third consecutive monthly rise.
- Australia had a current account deficit in December of 2.4 billion dollars (\$1.8 billion), its largest shortfall in 20 years.
- New Zealand recorded a current account deficit of 1.65 billion dollars (\$1.1 billion) in the three months ended Sept. 30.
- Japan's foreign exchange reserves grew \$1 billion in January from December, to a record \$123.9 billion.

China to Lower Bond Yields

Bloomberg Business News

SHANGHAI — China's deputy prime minister, Zhu Rongji, said Beijing would try to cool the feverish trading in its bond futures by reducing the yields on state bonds in the next few months, the official Chinese Business Times reported Wednesday.

Mr. Zhu said the government would begin to drop special inflation premiums from the yields of treasury bonds, the newspaper said.

The last big trade tussle between Washington and Beijing — over whether China's most-favored-nation trade status was to be renewed despite what Washington saw as a bad record on human rights — ended with a victory for Beijing.

U.S. Dusts Off Trade Weapons in Piracy Showdown

Reuters

SHANGHAI — The United States is preparing for war — not to defend democracy, but to protect Madonna, Microsoft Corp. and Walt Disney Co. from Chinese pirates.

Trade hostilities between the United States and China could break out Saturday, as Mickey Kantor, the U.S. trade representative, has told Beijing it must offer an acceptable solution to the problem of intellectual

property piracy by then or face 100 percent tariffs on \$1 billion of its exports.

China has warned it will retaliate in kind if Washington goes ahead with the tariffs.

If the first "shots" are fired, they will reverberate around the Pacific Rim. Hong Kong, for example, has said 3,800 jobs could be lost if a U.S.-Chinese trade war erupts.

Hong Kong companies, like many from Taiwan, Singapore

South Korea and Thailand, have invested heavily in China's export industries.

U.S. tariff barriers would hurt China as badly as pirated goods damage U.S. media and information industries. Those industries claim they lose an annual \$827 million in sales to Chinese-made counterfeit goods.

"The door is open," a U.S. Embassy spokesman in Beijing said after U.S. negotiators left the Chinese capital over the weekend without an agreement.

The spokesman was referring to Mr. Kantor's invitation to Beijing to send negotiators to Washington for 11-hour talks to try to come up with a solution. So far Beijing has failed to respond.

Washington has picked its battle ground with care. Although other U.S. industries

such as pharmaceuticals also complain their goods are being copied by Chinese companies, in this dispute it is easier to make a case for Madonna than for medicines.

Chinese-made counterfeit copies of the pop star's compact disks and tapes are hawked shamelessly in China and exported all over the world. Software fraud is harder to define and prove.

Washington has drawn up a list of 29 compact-disk factories that it wants to see either closed or more closely regulated.

Not all these factories churn out fakes. Some are joint ventures with reputable companies; others are backed by the Chinese military. But all have the technology to produce counterfeits that are as good as the real thing.

CURRENCY AND CAPITAL MARKET SERVICES

SADEX → FUTURES LIMITED

- 24 Hour margin based foreign exchange dealing
- Fast competitive rates with a personalised service
- Catering only to professional investors. Fund managers and institutions, for their speculative & hedging needs
- Up-to date market information and technical analysis
- Full futures brokerage in all major markets

33 Cavendish Square London W1

Reuters: Dealing: SABX, Reuters Monitor: SAB/ZY (+ Daily fax)

Tel: (071) 412 0091 Fax: (071) 412 0093

Please call for further information.

FIRST EUROPEAN INVESTMENT CORPORATION LTD.

GLOBAL MARKET COVERAGE

FUTURES + OPTIONS BROKERS

COMPETITIVE RATES

COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE

15 Queen Victoria Street London EC4V 4BS Tel: (01) 571 411 4000 Fax: (01) 571 411 4001

Member FSA

Member ECUA

Member FSA

NASDAQ

Wednesday's 4 p.m.
This list compiled by the AP, consists of the 1,000
most traded National Market securities in terms of
dollar value. It is updated twice a year.

AMEX

Wednesday's Closing
Sales include the nationwide prices

Figures include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect state trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

Sales figures are unofficial. Yearly highs and lows reflect the previous 52 weeks plus the current week, but not the latest trading day. Where a split or stock dividend amounts to 25 percent or more has been paid, the year's high-low range and dividend amounts are based for the new stock only, unless otherwise indicated. The rate of dividends are annual disbursements based on the latest declaration.

- a—dividend also extra.
- b—annual rate of dividend plus stock dividend.
- c—Rebalancing dividend.
- cd—called.
- d—new yearly low.
- e—dividends declared or paid in preceding 12 months.
- f—dividends in Canadian funds subject to 15% non-residence tax.
- g—dividends declared after split-up or stock dividend.
- h—dividend paid this year, omitted, deferred, or no action taken at latest dividend meeting.
- i—dividend declared or paid this year, an accumulative lesser with dividends in arrears.
- n—new issue in the past 12 weeks. The high-low range begins with the start of trading.
- nd—next day delivery.
- P/E—price-earnings ratio.
- r—dividends declared or paid in preceding 12 months, plus stock split.
- s—stock split. Dividend begins with date of split.
- sa—sales.
- t—dividend paid in stock in preceding 12 months, estimated cash value on ex-dividend or ex-distribution date.
- u—new yearly high.
- u—when heated.
- vi—in bankruptcy or receivership or being reorganized under the Bankruptcy Act, or securities assumed by such companies.
- wd—when distributed.
- wf—when issued.
- ww—with warrants.
- x—ex-dividend or ex-rights.
- xxs—ex-distribution.
- xxw—ex-distribution warrants.
- y—ex-dividend and sales in full.
- yield—yield.
- z—sales in full.

SPORTS

Basketball Wriggles Under the Antics of 'the New Barbarians'

By Ira Berkow

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Some have called them "Petulant Prima Donnas." They like to call themselves "The New Breed." And maybe they're nothing more than a version of an old tag known as "The New Barbarians."

They are the handful-plus in the National

Vantage Point



Basketball Association who have created waves for management, made coaches nauseated, disgusted some old-timers — and even teammates — and given many a sour taste about the state of the game.

They whine about the coach, they throw tantrums as well as chairs, they are recalcitrant about practice. Among them are Derrick Coleman and Isaiah Rider and Scottie Pippen and Christian Laettner and Dennis Rodman and Chris Webber.

Jalen Rose, the Denver rookie, recently joined the club when he blasted his coach, Dan Issel, during a time-out last month and said he would play any way he felt.

It wasn't long after that Issel returned as coach. And while he did not cite Rose as a reason, the belief is that the Roses of the world hastened his departure.

A coach on a recent pro-all-star team met one of these players for the first time at a practice and said, "I hadn't known him for five minutes and I couldn't stand him."

Some believe, as the name of a recent rag video by Deon Sanders explained, "It Must be the Money." After all, to co-opt an 18th-century fine, they are rich beyond the dreams of avarice. The current Sports Illustrated article which labeled these players prima donnas, also speculated that the discipline problems mirror those of society, finding their kernel in the breakdown of the American family, more or less.

But young people with questionable man-

ners, in sports or out, are out a recent phenomenon. Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan once described what he called "the new barbarians."

"I remember reading some statistics from a Princeton demographer," the senator told me. "He said that every society throughout history has been invaded by barbarians. Even the Barbarians were invaded by barbarians. He called that age group from 14 to 24 the barbarians. They are people who don't know how to behave in society. And the older generations must go through a process of teaching them. The Chinese, the Germans, the Hindus, the Romans, the Huns."

"So the problems for a society are either increased or decreased depending on the number of so-called barbarians."

AND WHILE BARBARIANS might be too strong a word for the general public in this regard, some coaches in fact call them worse. And shockingly enough, sometimes those perceived as barbarians — or at least

the impudent young — may be correct in their attitudes. Magic Johnson, for example, clashed with their coach, Paul Westhead, over basketball philosophy, and Johnson out only prevailed, but was proved right, too.

I have questions about the Webber-Don

Nelson conflict that resulted in Webber's being traded from Golden State to Washington, and Nelson, the coach, winding up in the hospital with, among other things, throbbing headache. Webber, who comes from a tight-knit family background, sounds sincere and not like a jerk when he said the coach didn't respect him. Coaches must always be adapting, too.

Invariably, though, when there is a problem, it comes from the top. "I don't blame Rodman, or any of the others," Oscar Robertson said recently. "I blame management. They've let those guys get away with all kinds of stuff."

Frank Layden, the former coach and cur-

rent president of the Utah Jazz, wonders if it didn't all start with the NBA promoting "The Bad Boy" image of the Detroit Pistons a few years ago. "Then the University of Michigan players, who were down the road, picked it up — the trash talking, the sloppy uniforms, all that in-your-face stuff — and they have influenced an entire generation of young players."

Get rid of them, or don't sign them, Layden advises. "I think the fans would understand," he said.

I think Layden is right and he is wrong. He is right that such action is a way to root out basketball barbarians. He is wrong that fans would embrace it.

When, for example, Pippen returned to the lineup Sunday after his one-game suspension for acting like a goof, many in the home crowd at Chicago's United Center gave him a warm ovation.

Makes one want to extend the definition of barbarians.

Negotiations Resumed in Baseball

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

WASHINGTON — Negotiations between the owners of the major league baseball teams and their striking players were resumed Wednesday after a 40-day break, with a new proposal made by the owners.

"We think it's significant and we hope it will lead to a settlement," said the Atlanta Braves' president, Stan Kasten.

One owner, however, told a union member that he doubted it was anything the players would find acceptable.

The sides hadn't met since Dec. 22, the day before the owners implemented their salary cap. President Bill Clinton said Thursday the sides should resume bargaining, and threatened to ask his special mediator, W.J. Usery, to present his own solution if an agreement wasn't reached by Monday.

But an overwhelming majority of Americans want President Clinton and Congress to let the owners and players work out an agreement by themselves, according to a Washington Post-ABC News Poll.

The survey also suggested that the owners are winning the battle for public support.

A majority of those surveyed said the players make too much money, agreed with the owners that a limit on "cap" on team payrolls was necessary, and supported the use of replacement players if the strike is not settled before the regular season is to start in April.

Forty-eight percent of those interviewed said they supported the owners, while 27 percent said they backed the players.

Pro-owner sentiment was even stronger among those who described themselves as baseball fans: more than half, 55 percent, backed the owners; 28 percent said they supported the players.

(AP, WP)

No. 3 Kansas Rallies Behind Irate Coach

The Associated Press

ROY WILLIAMS GOT ANGRY, THEN KANSAS GOT GOING.

Upset by the way Jayhawks' were playing against Colorado, the normally calm Kansas coach delivered a stern halftime lecture Tuesday night. His third-ranked team responded with a 10-1 run and went on to beat the visiting Buffaloes 97-77.

"I told them we were posting up like third-graders, out being very aggressive, walking down the court," Williams said. "That's not how we're supposed to play, that's not Kansas basketball."

"We had already talked in the locker room before coach got there," said Sean Pearson, who led Kansas with 16 points. "Coach got in, said what he wanted to say, and we went out and did it."

Williams was worried about a letdown after the Jayhawks' easy weekend victory over No. 4 Connecticut. His concern grew in the first half, when Kansas committed 11 turnovers and struggled to a 4-point lead.

But 3-pointers by Jerod Haase and Billy Thomas helped the Jayhawks take command in the second half.

"They can turn a game around in seconds," Colorado's coach, Joe Harrington, said.

Thomas, a freshman, scored a career-high 15 points as Kansas beat Colorado for the 18th time in 19 meetings.

The Jayhawks held Colorado to 39 percent shooting, continuing their season-long streak of holding opponents under 50 percent.

Donnie Boyce scored 21 points for Colorado. The Buffs' center, Ted Allen, played with a broken bone in his right wrist and scored only 12 points.

NO. 4 CONNECTICUT 82, MIAMI 57: Ray Allen made a school-record eight 3-pointers as Connecticut bounced back from its first loss of the season.

Allen was 8-for-12 from long range and finished with 25

points for the Huskies, who set a school-record with 13 3-pointers.

Kansas won 18 from long range in the 88-59 loss to Kansas on Saturday but 13 for 36 against Miami.

UConn extended its home winning streak to 26 and won its 14th straight regular-season

COLLEGE HIGHLIGHTS

Big East game, tying the record set by St. John's in 1984-85.

NO. 8 ARKANSAS 105, LSU 81: Both teams lost key players to injuries.

LSU's Randy Livingston, who leads the nation in assists, injured his right kneecap in the first half. Arkansas' Dwight Stewart, who has started 66 games the past three years, left with a sprained right knee early in the second half.

"We had already talked in the locker room before coach got there," said Sean Pearson, who led Kansas with 16 points. "Coach got in, said what he wanted to say, and we went out and did it."

Williams was worried about a letdown after the Jayhawks' easy weekend victory over No. 4 Connecticut. His concern grew in the first half, when Kansas committed 11 turnovers and struggled to a 4-point lead.

But 3-pointers by Jerod Haase and Billy Thomas helped the Jayhawks take command in the second half.

"They can turn a game around in seconds," Colorado's coach, Joe Harrington, said.

Thomas, a freshman, scored a career-high 15 points as Kansas beat Colorado for the 18th time in 19 meetings.

The Jayhawks held Colorado to 39 percent shooting, continuing their season-long streak of holding opponents under 50 percent.

Donnie Boyce scored 21 points for Colorado. The Buffs' center, Ted Allen, played with a broken bone in his right wrist and scored only 12 points.

NO. 4 CONNECTICUT 82, MIAMI 57: Ray Allen made a school-record eight 3-pointers as Connecticut bounced back from its first loss of the season.

Allen was 8-for-12 from long range and finished with 25

Shanahan Leaves the 49ers For 7-Year Deal in Denver

The Associated Press

DENVER — Mike Shanahan, the San Francisco 49ers' offensive coordinator, has signed a seven-year contract with the Denver Broncos as their head coach.

Some 48 hours after the 49ers routed San Diego, 49-26, in the Super Bowl, Shanahan agreed to terms Tuesday night with the Broncos' owner, Pat Bowlen, on a deal that is believed to be worth more than \$7 million.

"Deep down inside me, I always wanted this job," said Shanahan, 42, who served for seven seasons as a Denver assistant and succeeded the fired Wade Phillips.

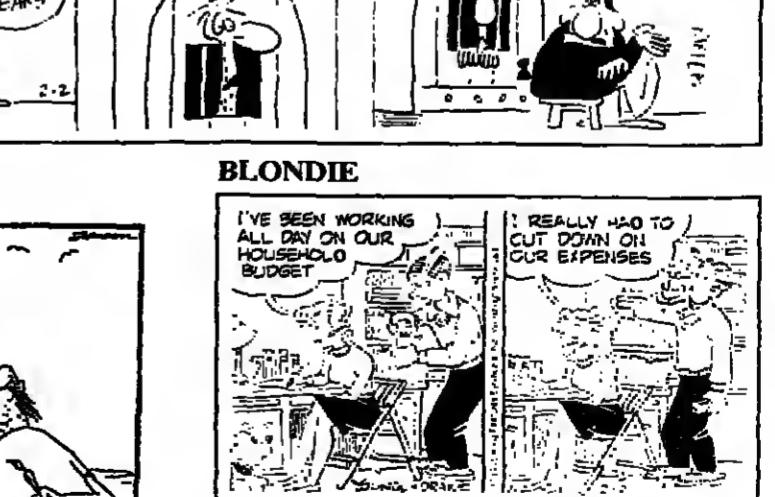
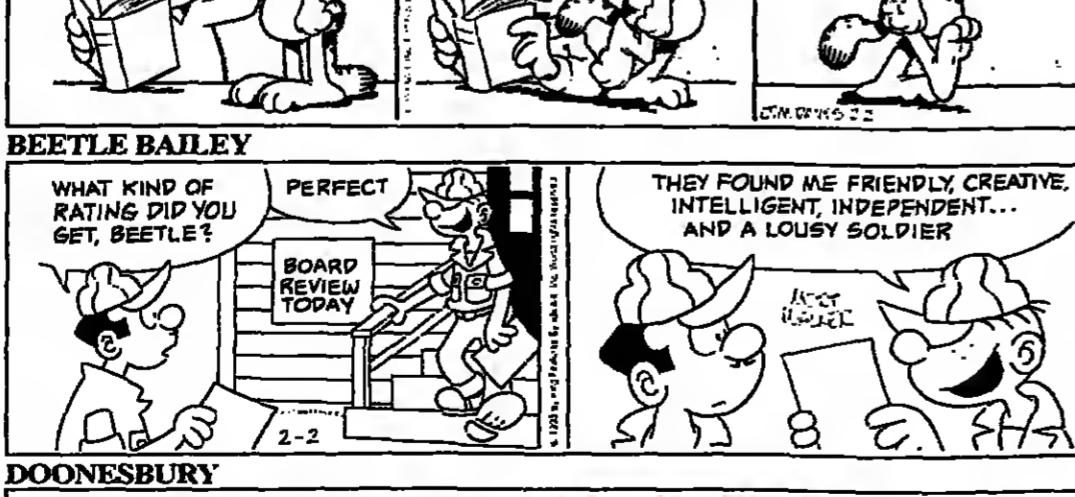
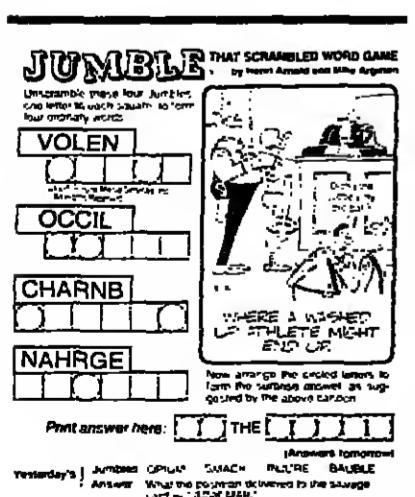
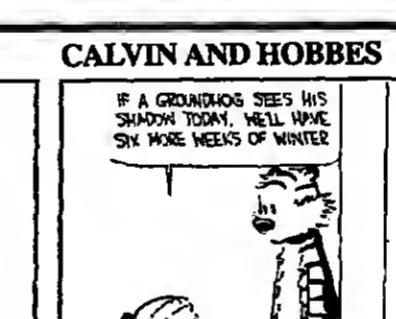
Bowlen attempted to hire Shanahan two years ago to succeed Dan Reeves. When they couldn't agree on a contract, Bowlen turned to Phillips, whose 16-17 record in two seasons led to his dismissal on Dec. 29.

John Elway, the Broncos' quarterback, said he was willing to restructure his contract to help the club sign key free agents.

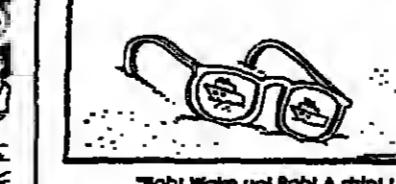
Elway, in Hawaii for Sunday's Pro Bowl, has two years left on a four-year deal for \$19.3 million.

DENNIS THE MENACE

PEANUTS



To subscribe in France just call, toll free, 05 437 437



INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1995

150

SPORTS

Maradona Lives Down to Image

Agence France-Presse

BUENOS AIRES — Diego Maradona, Eric Cantona's hero, has outstaged the fiery Frenchman, joining his players in a street brawl against rival fans.

Maradona, now the manager of Racing, was first ordered off the touchline after insulting the referee, Francisco Lamolina, during Monday night's friendly match against Independiente.

"Referees just want to be in the lime-light and make the front pages of the newspapers," Maradona said later.

After the match in Mendoza, Maradona and his players were involved in a brawl with Independiente supporters, one of whom needed hospital treatment.

Cantona, who attacked a fan last week, hailed Maradona as his hero on French television in January.

Grand Prix Races Are Rescheduled

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — The Pacific Grand Prix, scheduled for April 16 in Aida, Japan, was postponed Wednesday because of the recent earthquake, and a new 1995 Formula One calendar was issued.

Although the Aida track suffered no damage, the bullet-train lines serving the site were damaged. Railway officials said it will take four to five months to get the lines fixed, and the race was rescheduled for Oct. 22 — a week before the Japanese Grand Prix at Suzuka.

Under the schedule released Wednesday by world motor sport's governing body, FIA, the Argentine Grand Prix, originally scheduled as the first race of the season on March 12, will be postponed to April 9.

The season instead will open March 26 with the Brazilian Grand Prix, although both South American races still depend on final approval of the tracks after safety inspections.

Officials were scheduled to inspect the Buenos Aires circuit Tuesday and Friday to determine whether it met international standards.

The San Marino Grand Prix on April 30 and the Italian Grand Prix at Monza on Sept. 10 also are subject to track approval.

The 1995 Formula One calendar issued Wednesday:

March 26 — Brazilian Grand Prix, Interlagos, São Paulo
April 9 — Argentine Grand Prix, Buenos Aires
April 30 — San Marino Grand Prix, Imola, Italy
May 11 — Spanish Grand Prix, Barcelona
May 28 — Monaco Grand Prix, Monte Carlo
June 11 — Canadian Grand Prix, Montreal
July 2 — French Grand Prix, Magny-Cours
July 16 — British Grand Prix, Silverstone
July 23 — German Grand Prix, Hockenheim
Aug. 13 — Hungarian Grand Prix, Budapest
(reserve race)

Aug. 27 — Belgian Grand Prix, Spa-Francorchamps
Sept. 10 — Italian Grand Prix, Monza
Sept. 23 — Portuguese Grand Prix, Estoril
Oct. 1 — European Grand Prix, Nuerburg-Ring, Germany
Oct. 22 — Pacific Grand Prix, Aida, Japan
Oct. 29 — San Marino Grand Prix, Imola, Italy
Nov. 12 — Australian Grand Prix, Melbourne
* subject to final confirmation by Japanese Motorcar Federation

(AP, Reuters)

See our
International Recruitment
every Thursday

Gaining Empathy for Tomba From Cantona's Tantrum

By Ian Thomassen

International Herald Tribune

LONDON — There are two ways at least of reacting to the disappointment of Alberto Tomba, who likely would have consummated his potential this week with a long-sought gold medal at the World Championships.

You could decide that it's all about money, and so do Ian Thomassen

Tomba's value should be pitied. Who

cares if the business of his career ends without a World Championships? Grow up.

Or you might away that argument and concentrate on the achievements. Every performer goes through stages, and Tomba, at 28 near the end, seemed to be having one last go at the one missing piece of gold, symbolic gold.

He had won all seven World Cup slaloms this season and two of the four giant slaloms. The World Championships were

going to be a celebration of him, more important than any of the exhibitions or award ceremonies which will come in later years. A rare chance to celebrate a champion at his sentimental best. Even those who believe it's all about money might have been cheering him on.

"I certainly can't say I've had good luck with the World Championships," Tomba said after the event was postponed until February 1996 because of the dearth of snow in Sierra Nevada, Spain. "This year, with the form I'm in, it could really have been a good time. I felt like I could have won a medal. I'm very upset."

It's the richest performers like Tomba who, ironically, do the most to take our minds away from the influence of money on sport. Of course he fell in love with skiing before there was ever any money in it for him. Then, probably, he found himself performing for the money, weighing his effort against the income, deciding whether the hard work was worth his while.

We can only guess. If so, it explains the disaster of a few years ago, when the public adoration turned against him because he suddenly was losing. You don't hear Tomba complain about his fans: They're crazy, they purport mixed-up values, but from their emotional kaleidoscope a true star can find sanity. Tomba went back to work and now he works hard because that is his skill.

In soccer, the rival to Tomba really should have been Eric Cantona. He is strong and charismatic and brilliant, but last week the two of them were rivals in their misery. Cantona was undone by a different set of pressures. Tomba doesn't train with teammates, and he performs alone, never tackled from behind. Cantona might have been suited better for that.

There's no point in rationalizing Cantona's blind decision to attack a fan last week in London. A lot is being made of a player who might hardly be remembered two generations from now. He was never going to be great.

Talent is another thing entirely. No one in England or in his native France can match Cantona for talent, but, ultimately, he is like those fast horses who break down before extending themselves from race to race. He is Arazi; if you remember Arazi. He is Hal Sutton, the U.S. champion who was going to dominate world golf a dozen years ago. Perhaps you've forgotten Hal Sutton.

AS SENSATIONAL as has been Cantona's play, nothing can or will match the sensation of his outrageous attack. They may recall him where he played, but elsewhere he will become that mad Frenchman and, in 20 years, after more stars have come and gone, it will be no easy thing to make a convincing argument of his skill.

In the meantime, people talk about returning Cantona to Manchester United in time for a European run next season, but no one is willing to discuss his most glaring need. He needs counseling. Maybe that's

an American panacea, but more obvious than his talent is the fact that Cantona cannot handle the pressures. Drunks don't just stop drinking. In the "Pulp Fiction" of Western society, he is a hero because he has produced more tantrums than trophys.

So the big story last week was Cantona, but it should have been Tomba. Cantona's fame will be short-lived. Better to concentrate on those who endure. Now I hope that Tomba will continue to win throughout next season, to finish his career with the World Championships. For a while there I was cynical about him as a money-making machine. Money and self-promotion have always seemed the goal for Tomba. Then Eric Cantona made me realize how easily Tomba might have collapsed a few years ago. If the main goal were just money, then Cantona would never have risked his income as he did last week. Money and fame are the influences that drive one man crazy and another to modern greatness.

Team New Zealand Edges Nippon in Best Race Yet

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SAN DIEGO — Peter Blake and Team New Zealand, after battling Makoto Namba's Nippon all the way around the course, eked out a victory in the most intense race to date at the America's Cup trials.

"It was a fantastic race," said Russell Coutts, Team New Zealand's helmsman. "If there are more races like that in the America's Cup we will all be exhausted."

The Kiwis, with Tuesday's victory in the second-round series, ran their record to 8-0 in the Louis Vuitton Cup elimination trials.

Nippon beat Team New Zealand across the starting line by 19 seconds after furious pre-start maneuvering, and maintained the lead until the second upwind leg.

Team New Zealand then proved faster upwind and led at the second windward mark before losing time downwind, when Nippon again took control.

"It was satisfactory," he said. "We went round two marks ahead. We feel we can build on this. We are going to struggle to learn what we have to, but by round three we will be more competitive."

Roja de Espana, skippered by Pedro Campos, lost its eighth race in a row, to Syd Fischer's Sydney 95, which showed good speed to win by 2 minutes, 14 seconds.

On the defenders' course, a victory by Dennis Conner's Stars & Stripes over the all-women's America3 team skippered by Leslie Egnot gave Conner possession of the top spot in the standings with seven points, two more than the idle Young America team.

Stars & Stripes led from the start and led comfortably throughout. America3 issued a protest over a Stars & Stripes crewman being sent aloft to look for wind late in the race, but a jury rejected that protest Tuesday night. (Reuters, AP)



PASSING SHOTS — Michael Stich (left) and Boris Becker were still going their own ways Wednesday at practice in Karlsruhe for Germany's Davis Cup matches against Croatia. The World Group competition gets underway on Friday.

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

NBA Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

Midwest Division

Central Division

Western Conference

Midwest Division

Central Division

Pacific Division

NBA Standings

Top 25 College Results

Top 25 College Scores

NHL Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

SOUTH

Midwest Division

Central Division

WESTERN CONFERENCE

South

Midwest Division

Central Division

Pacific Division

NBA All-Star Game Rosters

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

Central Division

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

Central Division

NHL Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

SOUTH

Midwest Division

Central Division

Pacific Division

NHL Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

SOUTH

Midwest Division

Central Division

Pacific Division

NHL Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

SOUTH

Midwest Division

Central Division

Pacific Division

NHL Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

SOUTH

Midwest Division

Central Division

Pacific Division

NHL Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

SOUTH

Midwest Division

Central Division

Pacific Division

NHL Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

SOUTH

Midwest Division

Central Division

Pacific Division

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1a Mitch Miller's instrument
- 2a Linka org.
- 3a Hollers
- 4a Support
- 14a Speech fumbles
- 15a Charlotte cager
- 16a The Smothers Brothers, e.g.
- 17a Alice's restaurant
- 18a Make hand over
- 19a Open
- 20a Bottom-line amount
- 21a "Odyssey" archness
- 22a Admire
- 23a "Gutterby" et al.
- 24a February 2 sighting
- 25a Brighton brew
- 26a Carved out
- 27a Caudron
- 28a Like a certain period of buried time?
- 29a Singer Christie
- 30a Consent and Reason, e.g.
- 31a "Six Crises" monogram
- 32a "Down, e.g.
- 33a They're on the moving and
- 34a Cross
- 35a Maid-for-TV?
- 36a "Steve Allen Show" regular
- 37a "Graziano" poet
- 38a Handsome hunk
- 39a Cowboys and Indians, e.g.
- 40a Physician Georg
- 41a Actress Diana
- 42a Casual coverup
- 43a Stock option
- 44a "Circeus" cleric
- 45a Elizabeth I, to poet
- 46a Start up
- 47a Stock market
- 48a "Lean" — (Bill Withers hit)
- 49a "Are not" response
- 50a What to do when you see red
- 51a Bard of boxing
- 52a Any soap opera
- 53a Set upon
- 54a Kind of brick
- 55a Kazanakova, character
- 56a "The Faerie Queene" post
- 57a Mr. Sleev
- 58a "Auntie" — (1971 film)
- 59a Bard of boxing
- 60a Any soap opera</

ART BUCHWALD

The Foxhole Fallacy

WASHINGTON — If there's one thing guaranteed to make a woman really mad, it's being told that she can't stay in a foxhole for more than 30 days because she will develop infections, plus the fact that she lacks the upper body strength needed to remain in a good fighting state.

This is something I found in Newt Gingrich's "Little Red Book" which all us conservatives have to carry around with us. Newt the class he teaches at Georgia's Reinhardt College that men are different from women when it comes to fighting because men were like pigeons — you just drop them in a ditch and they roll around in the mud.

Now I'm not whistling Dixie here. This comes straight from the horse's mouth.

Newt also said that women are better on cruisers and in airplanes because they don't get fidgety sitting for long periods of time like men do. Men and this is his quote, "rather than sit down prefer to go out and hunt griffins."

The speaker may have a good point in case we get into another war like Desert Storm. But by being frank about their weaknesses he has distressed a large segment of the female population, particularly those who do Jane Fonda aerobics.

My friend Molly read the article and said, "Son of a b—" using the same word Connie Chung heard with her own ears on TV. "It's not a question of whether or not a woman could remain in a foxhole for 30 days, but why would any sane person want to?"

I said, "Maybe Newt thought



we would be fighting the French and Indian War again."

Molly declared, "I'll wager my upper body strength against Newt's any day of the week. I'll even arm-wrestle him in the cafeteria of Boys Town."

"I don't imagine that you're buying this line about women getting diseases much easier than men."

"I'm sure that Newt got his information from the same doctors who work for the tobacco companies and who claim that you can't get sick from cigarette smoke."

"Do you think that Gingrich is wrong on everything?"

"Nn, not everything. He might be right about men being like little pigeons. You throw them in a ditch and they love to roll around."

"Have you ever seen them do it?"

"No, but my sister Shirley is in the Marine Corps and she sees it all the time."

"I don't understand that if what he says about physiological differences between the sexes is true, why would he make it public? If Castro finds out what sex we are going to put in combat, he'll have the military advantage."

I continued, "Now there is one more subject I would like to cover. When men get itchy, do they really like to go out and shoot giraffes?"

"Of course they do. Giraffes aren't that hard to waste if you have a good semi-automatic."

"Molly, you're a good citizen. Does this affect the way you see Gingrich not just as speaker of the house but as No. 3 in line for the presidency?"

"Not at all. I can't think of anyone else in America who knows more about how a woman's body works in a foxhole. It's too bad we didn't find this out before our boys went to Haiti."

An Adventurer's Life: Always New Heights

By Roderick Conway Morris

International Herald Tribune

SULDEN, Italy — Reinholt Messner spent his 26th birthday lying in a Munich clinic. Several weeks before, he and his brother Günther, having been invited to join a German expedition, had reached the summit of Nanga Parbat in Kashmir. During the descent, amid continual avalanches, Messner lost contact with Günther, who was never seen again.

The South Tyrolean climber combed the mountain for two days and nights searching for Günther. By the time Messner literally crawled, and was finally carried by mountain farmers, back to civilization, he was so badly frost-bitten that he lost half a dozen toes, and was lucky not to lose several fingers. When he emerged from the clinic he was penniless and, in his own words, "a cripple."

"It was clear that I would never be able to climb again," said Messner. "For practical reasons, because of the amputations I had undergone, but also for psychological reasons. But after a while I realized that by staying at home and continuing to try to study for a profession — I was doing architecture at Padua University at the time — I could not bring my brother back to life again. He was dead."

"So I went back to what was my real life before my life as an adventurer. Because by then, it was too late — that was my life. I could have become an unhappy and unsuccessful architect — but there were already plenty of unhappy and unsuccessful architects."

Within a decade, Messner was the first (with Peter Habeler) to climb Everest without oxygen and, soon after, the first to scale the mountain solo. By the mid-'80s he had become the first to scale all 14 of the world's 8,000-meter (26,250-foot) peaks — all without oxygen. Having crossed Antarctica and Greenland, unsupported, Messner, who last September celebrated his 50th birthday (perhaps when one studies the history of his hair-raising exploits, his most improbable achievement of all), is due to set off at the beginning of March on what he reckons will be the biggest challenge of his career — crossing the pack ice and ice barriers of the Arctic Ocean (with his doctor-brother Hu-

bert) from the New Siberian Islands to Cape Columbia in Canada via the North Pole, "by fair means," without any air support, food depots or external assistance.

By the time Messner came on the scene, the world's highest peaks had been conquered, but no climber of previous generations could have conceived that a single individual would be able to scale every one of them in a lifetime. But then nobody before Messner — who was born into a family of nine children in a tiny mountain village in the Italian South Tyrol, and had no prospect of raising the massive sums required by earlier Himalayan expeditions — imagined that it might be possible to tackle these giants in what Messner has called "alpine-style" ascents.

"Everest was climbed, so it was not important to go there any more, to climb again and again," he said. "What was interesting was to see whether it was possible to climb it without oxygen. Because, as I came to realize, if you could, expeditions would be far less expensive. Doing Everest solo, or in a two-man or three-man team would cost peanuts."

"Before you needed a lot of money, a lot of time and faced huge logistical problems, with dozens of porters, moving tons of material. The good weather time is very short, and the more material you have, the more people on the expedition, the chances of reaching the summit get less and less."

The medical establishment, however, was unanimous in arguing that spending extended periods at high altitude without oxygen would lead to permanent brain damage. "I could not be sure, but I did not believe that this was true," Messner said. "I knew that a British climber, Colonel Norton, had gone up to nearly 29,000 feet in 1924. He approached the summit of Everest, though he didn't reach it, without suffering any ill effects — and lived to be an old man. And I personally had done three 8,000-meter peaks without oxygen. I did not feel perfect, but I knew that I could go higher."

Although triumphantly proving conventional medical wisdom incorrect, Messner has nonetheless had some extraordinary experiences along the way: "On Nanga Parbat in 1970, I had a clear out-of-body experience. I had the feeling that I could see my own body rolling down the mountain. I was flying above myself — maybe six or seven meters above — and I could observe every move I was making. And it was a very painful moment when I came into my own body again."

"Yet I think these hallucinations are logical things," he said. "If you go for days and days at high altitude, exposed to the limits of your endurance, you begin to seek out other human beings. The main difficulty is not the lack of oxygen, not the climbing, the cold, the storms — but to be so far away from other human beings. And, in reality, human beings should not be up there, and we know it when we are



Reinhold Messner at his museum.

up there. So we create others, or even see ourselves, so that for an hour or two we are not entirely alone. And these visions help us to survive."

The chances of being alone in some places in the Alps, Himalayas and other ranges where once Messner wandered alone or in the company of one or two fellow climbers have, alas, seriously diminished. Peaks that could be climbed 50 years ago by fewer than 20 mountaineers, he said, are now accessible to several thousand. The result has been the despoliation of once virgin wilds — on the slopes of Everest alone there are thousands of tons of discarded oxygen bottles and other refuse.

In response, Messner has set up an international organization Mountain Wilderness, aimed at preserving remote landscapes and encouraging climbers to leave the places they visit as they found them. He hopes too to set an example by his own practices.

Messner now combines his life as adventurer with that of a farmer (he is particularly proud of a new breed of cattle he is developing, by crossing yak and Scottish Highland cattle, able to live outside all year round, which could make very high alpine farms economically viable). He has also bought and restored, in the village of Salden, an old building where local mountain guides used to wait to take well-heeled amateur climbers on excursions in the surrounding peaks, and turned it into a singular and amusing museum, illustrated by more than 100 pieces from his own collection.

The museum's central theme is "the gulf between thought and being, to be found in even the best mountaineers."

Now considering himself "a walker rather than a climber," Messner said: "I'm not an ambitious climber any more — and anyway, I'm too old to compete. But I am not running out of possible adventures, only running out of time."

He does not pretend to be without apprehensions about his 1,250-mile (2,000-kilometer) polar trek.

"I often feel afraid before I go," he said. "But once I am out there I feel quite well, and I go step by step to see if I can reach the goal. I'm still quite strong, and still feel the necessity to do it. But I don't suppose I will ever know, deep down inside myself, why I do it."

PEOPLE

The Words in English, With Honors in French

Rocker Johnny Hallyday admits it's ironic that the French government has named him an Officer of the Order of Arts and Letters, just as he has recorded an all-English album. Culture Minister Jacques Toubon, while battling the increasing use of English in France, conferred the honor after Hallyday's concert at the Midem music trade fair in Cannes to promote the album, "Rough Town." The 51-year-old Hallyday said, "It proves that languages have no borders."

Keith Lockhart, the associate conductor of the Cincinnati Symphony and Cincinnati Pops orchestras, will succeed John Williams as conductor of the Boston Pops, according to The Boston Globe. Boston Symphony Orchestra Inc., which runs the Pops, said no appointment had been made, but acknowledged that Lockhart was high on the list.

Mayor Marion Barry ticked off the Terminator when he was late for a lunch date in Washington. Arnold Schwarzenegger, who was running on a very tight schedule, was so annoyed that, after waiting 15 minutes for the mayor to arrive at the luncheon meeting to discuss bringing Inner-City Games to Washington, he was heard muttering, "Let's just forget this mayor." And so he did. Barry finally showed up almost an hour late.

"Pulp Fiction" is ineligible for the Writers Guild of America's screenwriting awards. No matter that Quentin Tarantino's script has already received three best screenplay awards. The WGA strictly requires that nominated films must have been produced by members of the screenwriters' union. "Pulp Fiction" was made by two independent companies — neither of them a member.

WEATHER

Europe



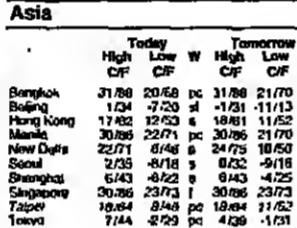
North America

There is potential for another weekend snowstorm in parts of the Northeast and Great Lakes this weekend. There will be cold and a slight chance that a cold front will move northward toward New England. A little snow is possible Friday in Chicago. Not at all. I can't think of anyone who knows more about how a woman's body works in a foxhole. It's too bad we didn't find this out before our boys went to Haiti."

My friend Molly read the article and said, "Son of a b—" using the same word Connie Chung heard with her own ears on TV. "It's not a question of whether or not a woman could remain in a foxhole for 30 days, but why would any sane person want to?"

I said, "Maybe Newt thought

Asia



Europe

Moderately cold weather will continue from North Korea through Japan across South Korea, Japan and much of the rest of eastern China. All of these areas will have gusty winds, with some snow. Some snow showers will occur in Southeast Asia and Malaysia.

Latin America



North America

Undoubtedly Cold, Undoubtedly Hot, Heavy Rain, Heavy Snow, and Cold.

Africa

Undoubtedly Cold, Undoubtedly Hot, Heavy Rain, Heavy Snow, and Cold.

Report

	Depth L	U	Plates	Res.	Snow	Last	Snow	Comments
Andorra	70	90	Fair	Open	Hard	22/1	Resort fully open, packed snow	
Solden	50	95	Fair	Open	Hard	26/1	Most lifts open, generally good	
Ischgl	120	250	Good	Open	Powd.	30/1	All 41 lifts open, superb skiing	
Kitzbuehel	50	100	Good	Open	Powd.	30/1	Most lifts open, good skiing	
Obertauern	60	135	Good	Open	Powd.	30/1	21/2 lifts open, excellent skiing	
Schleissheim	70	100	Good	Open	Powd.	31/1	All 78 lifts and cable cars open, good on groomed pistes	
SLAMTON	90	400	Good	Open	Powd.	30/1	Superb skiing, powder available	

Canada

	Depth L	U	Plates	Res.	Snow	Last	Snow	Comments
Whistler	90	245	Good	Open	Powd.	31/1	22/26 lifts and 190 200 runs	

France

	Depth L	U	Plates	Res.	Snow	Last	Snow	Comments
Alpe d'Huez	160	320	Good	Open	Powd.	30/1	70-82 lifts open, excellent skiing	
Les Arcs	175	330	Good	Open	Powd.	30/1	86-79 lifts open, superb skiing	
Avoriaz	200	280	Good	Open	Powd.	30/1	58-41 lifts open, great skiing	
Chamonix	80	540	Good	Open	Powd.	30/1	34-40 lifts perfect conditions	
Couloire	150	300	Good	Open	Powd.	30/1	Great skiing, excellent powder	
Les Deux Alpes	80	300	Good	Open	Powd.	30/1	Great skiing, excellent powder	
Meribel	80	260	Good	Open	Powd.	30/1	47-50 lifts open, excellent skiing	
Megeve	95	250	Good	Open	Powd.	30/1	37-42 lifts open, superb skiing	
La Plagne	195	275	Good	Open	Powd.	30/1	112 lifts open, excellent skiing	
Serre Chevalier	210	260	Good	Open	Powd.	30/1	103 lifts open, superb skiing	
Val d'Isere	170	340	Good	Open	Powd.	30/1	Stable conditions, perfection	
Val Thorens	17							